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6 Guantanamo prisoners to be sent to Uruguay

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MUSIC Beyonce, Sam Smith received multiple Grammy nominations

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Florida State, Oregon make the playoffs

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STARS

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50¢/Free to Deployed Areas

Yemen raid highlights risks of rescue ops

Two hostages shot by militants before SEALs could arrive

By KAREN DEYOUNG AND ADAM GOLDMAN The Washington Post.

WASHINGTON - U.S. Navy SEALs had walked nearly seven miles from their landing zone in southern Yemen and were within about 300 feet of the al-Oaida compound where American journalist Luke Somers was being held when they suddenly came under fire, U.S. officials said Saturday.

As the commandos battled in the darkness, night-vision cameras in aircraft hovering overhead watched one militant hurry to the building housing Somers. By the time the Americans fought their way there, the militant was gone and Somers and another hostage, South African teacher Pierre Korkie, lay mortally wounded.

Korkie died aboard a rescue aircraft, according to officials who provided details of the operation. Somers survived to reach a nearby Navy ship, the USS Makin Island, where he died while undergoing surgery.

No casualties were reported among the 40-person U.S. rescue

In the wake of the rescue attempt, which took place at 1 a.m. Saturday, Yemen time, officials said that the decision to undertake it was made after U.S. intelligence determined his al-Oaida captors were about to execute Somers.

SEE RAID ON PAGE 7



Protesters march along 42nd Street in New York City following a "die-in" Saturday at Grand Central Station to decry a grand jury's decision not to indict the police officer involved in the death of Eric Garner.

Fired skippers often maintain their rank

By Matthew M. Burke

Stars and Strines

In the past five years, 90 Navy skippers have been relieved of duty for indiscretions ranging from driving under the influence to having inappropriate relationships.

But for Navy officers, losing your job doesn't always end your career.

Based on information provided by the Navy, Stars and Strines has found that 53 percent of all officers relieved of command since 2010 still put on the uniform each day, most without loss of rank

■ Navy Cmdr. Larry Gonzales was relieved

of leadership duties aboard the USS Chafee in 2009 after he was investigated for groping a subordinate and carrying on an inappropriate relationship. In 2011, he became deputy

director of research and analysis at the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command in Hawaii.

■ In 2011, Cmdr. Timothy Murphy was relieved from Electronic Attack Squadron 129 after police cited him for driving under the influence. He later became a program team leader at the F/A-18 Hornet and EA-

18G Growler Program Office in Maryland.

■ Last year, Capt. Lance Massey II was relieved as maintenance commander of the 33rd Fighter Wing for inappropriate behavior with female staff. Though he's no longer in

command, Massey is still with the

While retaining commanding officers accused of inappropriate and sometimes illegal actions might look suspicious, naval scholars suggest cases must be examined individually.

SEE SKIPPERS ON PAGE 2

QUOTE OF THE DAY

第3種郵便物設可

"I feel in my heart that there is no hope for Harlan. There's no hope for our children in the future here. And I hate that."

 Madonna Sizemore, the wife of a coal miner in eastern Kentucky, discussing the residents' struggle to survive because of a downturn in the coal industry.

See story on Page 14

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Package from Australia stirs memories, tears in WWIII veteran 2. To Japan, Pearl Harbor is just another battle in a decadeslong war 3. Congress takes another crack at war memorial cross in California 4. China predicted to have more warships than the US by 2020 5. Navy encouraged by performance of laser system on USS Pronce

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MILITARY

Skippers: Administrative relief an easier option

FROM FRONT PAGE

The evidence and how each case is adjudicated ultimately determines the fate of those relieved.

Admirals looking at a case of alleged wrongdoing have two options, according to Navy Capt. Michael Junge, a military professor at the U.S. Naval War College who has been studying commander reliefs for more than a decade. They can pursue military charges and proceed to a court-martial—where a conviction could result in total separation from the military—or they can relieve a commander administratively. The latter is sometimes easier, especially if the evidence is weak.

Officials at the Navy Personnel Command declined to comment on the individual cases, instead referring Stars and Stripes to lower commands, which largely did not respond to requests for comment.

Some considerations

Junge said administrative actions would not necessarily make it into the sailor's file and, therefore, the sailor would not be separated from the Navy.

An arrest for drunken driving or groping a colleague's wife would likely see an officer relieved of command but not forced out of the service, Junge said. It's likely, however, they would never command again and their career would be adversely affected.

"In the modern Navy, an officer relieved of their command doesn't go on to command again," he said. But, "if it isn't a clear criminal act, then there's no reason to send these guys out."

Junge said the number of commanding officers who misbehave makes up a very small percentage of those who serve. Like in the

Correction

A headline in Friday's editions provided incorrect information concerning funding for military construction related to moving Marines based in the Pacific. The funding would enable Marine units to move from Okinawa to Guam.

99

The number of Navy commanders relieved between 2009 and 2013. How many of them remain active in the Navy isn't clear, however, of the 21 relieved in 2013, 82 percent still serve.

civilian world, he believes some crimes or incidents of wrongdoing are mistakes, where relief of command is punishment enough. In some cases, it is better to help the individual and retain their almost 20 years of experience, knowledge and training.

"Just because we have a zerotolerance policy doesn't mean you're automatically fired," he said. "Firing might not be the right answer all the time."

Who can fire whom?

One area that is often perplexing to Junge is who can fire whom. Sometimes an admiral will relieve a commanding officer but leave the commander's immediate supervisor out of the loop. Other

times, the immediate supervisor does the firing.
"It's all over the place," Junge said. "It's hard to see who's in

charge."
In 2009, 12
Navy commanders were fired,
according to

Navy information provided to Stars and Stripes. Personnel Command officials did not respond to requests detailing which commanders were still employed in the Navy.

In 2010, 17 commanders were fired, Navy officials said. As of February 2014, five of them were still in the Navy.

They include Cmdr. Jeff Cima, who was relieved from command of the USS Chicago for drunkenness in 2010, Navy officials said. As of February, he was working at the U.S. Mission to NATO in Brussels.

Cmdr. Herman Pfaeffle was relieved of command after hitting a pier in the USS John L. Hall, but now is in Naval Operations.

Capt. Ronald Gero, commanding officer of the USS Ohio, was relieved by Rear Adm. James Caldwell due to a loss of confidence in Gero's ability to command.

Loss of confidence

Loss of confidence is a response often used by Navy leadership to remove a commander early into a misconduct investigation, according to Navy spokesman Lt. Chika Onyekanne.

It is also used to remove a commander when there is not enough evidence to pursue formal charges. The information as to what the commander allegedly did is then often protected.

"Loss of confidence' is a leimate reason for a CO firing," Onyekanne wrote to Stars and Stripes. "In many cases/situotos the investigation of the incident, such as misconduct, is early in the process and ongoing. Relieving the CO also allows continuity of leadership at the command while decreasing and/or minimizing the possible distraction (at the command) of an ongoing investigation."

Also in 2010, Cmdr. Charles

number who were able to stay in doubled from the previous year, to 10.

In addition to Murphy, Cmdr. Nathan Borchers was relieved from the USS Stout for a pattern of unprofessional behavior in overseas ports, according to Navy officials. He recently held a position at the Strategic Command at Colo-

rado Springs, Colo.
Capt. William Mosk was relieved from Naval Station Rota after his command lost confidence in his effectively overseeing an investigation. He wound up at Commander Carrier Strike Group 9.

Cmdr. Dave Koss was responsible for a low-flying maneuver, Cmdr. Michael Varney mishandled classified information, Cmdr. Karl Pugh was disciplined in an alcohol-related incident and Cmdr. Laredo Bell was cited for drunken driving. All remained in the service.

The reasons behind the firings of Cmdr. Joseph Nosse, Lt. Cmdr. Martin Holguin and Cmdr. Jonathan Jackson were cited as loss of confidence.

In 2012, 26 commanders were relieved for cause, Navy officials said. Of those, 14 were allowed to remain in the service, representing a jump of 11 percent in the number who stayed — to 54 per-

"Just because we have a zero-tolerance policy doesn't mean you're automatically fired. Firing might not be the right answer all the time. "

> Navy Capt. Michael Junge U.S. Naval War College

Maher was relieved from the USS Memphis during the investigation of a cheating ring, Navy officials said. He was later hired at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center.

It. Cmdr. James Rushton was relieved from the minesweeper the USS Chief for fraternization with the executive officer to close out 2010. Earlier this year, he was stationed at Tactical Training Group Pacific.

The numbers grow

In 2011, 23 commanders were relieved of their command for cause, Navy officials said. The cent from 43 percent — over the previous year.

Cmdr. Diego Hernandez was relieved for mishandling classified materials, Cmdr. Derick Armstrong for sexual harassment and fraternization, and Cmdr. Michael Ward for an extramarital affair. The justifications behind many of the firings have not been released.

From January 2013 through February 2014, 22 commanders were relieved, 21 in 2013 alone, Navy officials said. Nearly all of them (82 percent) remain in the Navy today.

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WAR/MILITARY

Hagel: Afghan training key in war's final act

By Robert Burns
The Associated Press

TACTICAL BASE GAMBERI, Afghanistan — It's only a slight stretch to say America's longest war stops here.

The several hundred American soldiers on this remote base in Afghanistan's wild east are the vanguard of a transformed Usmilitary mission meant to avoid the kind of unraveling of security that happened this year in Iraq and to ensure that the reason for invading Afghanistan in the first place—al-Qaida's haven for plotting the Sept. 11 attacks — never recurs.

These soldiers, including elements of the 3rd Infantry Division and the 3rd Cavalry Regiment, are not fighting the Taliban. They are trying to script the final chapter of the U.S. part in a conflict that seems certain to continue after the Americans leave.

Gamberi, a dusty outpost in Laghman province near the fabled city of Jalalabad, will be one of four "Train, Advise, Assist Commands" across the country, in addition to several training establishments in Kabul, the capital.

Gone are the days of large U.S. combat forces here or in any other part of Afghanistan, although U.S. special operations forces will continue, mostly in conjunc-



OPERT BURNE/AD

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel speaks to American and Polish troops Sunday at Tactical Base Gamberi in eastern Afghanistan. Hagel was winding up a two-day visit, his last to Afghanistan as defense chief.

tion with Afghan forces, to hunt down al-Qaida remnants or other

U.S. troops also will take on the Taliban in situations where they are deemed to pose a threat to American troop security.

The largest mission, however, is going to be training the Afghans—not on the front lines but at bases such as Gamberi.

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel dropped in Sunday to get briefed on their work and to deliver a holiday season pep talk.

Before a few hundred soldiers, Hagel said the idea is to "work our way, essentially, out of a job as we transition from the combat role we've had over the last 13 years" to a mission that puts the onus on Afghan combat prowess. He said the Afghan army and police forces have made a lot of progress, at the cost of much U.S. blood and treasure since 2001.

"We don't want to see that roll back downhill," Hagel said.

Gamberi exemplifies what President Barack Obama calls the new noncombat mission.

The soldiers here are focused on training and advising Afghan security forces; it's a mission with NATO allies that will assume a new name on Jan. 1, "Resolute Support." The long combat mission known as Operation Enduring Freedom will conclude at the end of December.

This new phase will not last long, however, if current plans hold.

Virtually all U.S. troops will be gone two years from now as to Chama completes his final term in office. The hope is that the Afghans can hold off Taliban militants who, it is feared, could allow a return of al-Qaid aor other extremist groups if they were to regain power in Kabul.

Gen. John Campbell, the top American commander in Afghanistan, said Saturday that he has Obama's permission to keep up to 10,800 U.S. troops in the country for the first few months of 2015; that's about 1,000 more than previously planned.

As a result, there will be little, if any, net drop in U.S. troop num-

bers between now and Dec. 31. By the end of 2015, however, the U.S. troop total is to shrink to 5,500, and to near zero by the end of 2016.

In an interview, Campbell said the Afghans are not only capable of providing their own security but are eager to do so.

"They totally have the security. They want to own it. They are proud that they have that back" as a sovereign nation, he said.

Campbell said part of his challenge is to build confidence among Afghan troops, partly by reminding them that their firepower is superior to that of the Taliban. He also is pushing them to be more aggressive and take the fight to the Taliban.

"They have this checkpoint mentality" that makes them prefer to wait at fixed positions for the Taliban to come to them. "I'm trying to get them off that" approach, he said. "They've got to become more maneuverable to get out there and go after the enemy."

Hagel, on what aides said was surely his last visit to Afghanistan as defense secretary, told U.S. troops that there is no room for complacency and no reason to think that their training and advising work will not present its own risks. "The job's not done." he said.

"The job's not done," he said.
"This is still a dangerous country in many ways."

Professors want 'drone court' to approve strikes

By NATE CARLISLE The Salt Lake Tribune

SALT LAKE CITY — Today, when U.S. intelligence agencies believe they know the location of a terrorist in Pakistan and a few other countries, they are largely free to deploy a weapon that's become the symbol of war on terrorism: an aerial drone.

The drone drops a bomb or fires a missile that executes the suspect.

University of Utah law professor Amos Guiora is pushing for another step before the U.S. government or military could decide to kill a terrorism suspect with a drone.

In a proposal to be published in 2015, Guiora and a colleague are pushing for what they call a "drone court."

The court would be part of the judiciary branch and would hear arguments for why the United States should target a suspect with a drone strike. A lawyer from the government would make an argument to a judge.

"The idea here is to create a robust judicial review of the executive branch, and the best way to do that is indeed with the court we are recommending," Guiora said.

we are recommending," Guiora said.

An opposing lawyer would represent the suspect, or suspects, in absentia. If the judge believes the government has met its burden, it would approve the drone strike.

The idea of a drone court has been raised before and has its critics.

Neal K. Katyal, a professor of national security law at Georgetown University and a former acting solicitor general, advised against the court in a 2013 opinion column in The New York Times.

"It is hard to think of something less suitable for a federal judge to rule on, than the fast-moving and protean nature of targeting decisions." Katyal wrote.

He proposed an alternative: a national



KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/A

An unmanned U.S. Predator drone flies over Kandahar Air Field, southern Afghanistan, on a moonlit night in January 2010.

security court housed within the executive branch.

But Guiora said an executive branch court wouldn't provide enough oversight and separation of powers. He also rejects the argument that finding a terrorist and taking action creates too dynamic a situation for a protocol like the drone court.

Guiora paraphrased an Israeli Supreme Court decision on targeting terrorist suspects: "Logistical burdens of state should not be posed on individuals."

The proposal by Guiora and University of San Francisco Law Professor Jeffrey Brand also advises against creating a court similar to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court, which approves warrants for wiretaps and digital collection by the National Security Agency and the FBI. That court, in which there is no one representing the subject of the warrant and the

burden of proof is low, has proven to be too biased in favor of the government, the law professors argue.

Guiora has firsthand experience deciding what should be done with terrorist suspects. He served for 19 years in the Israel Defense Forces. Part of that time was spent as a judge-advocate general reviewing plans to kill terrorist suspects or combatants and determining whether the circumstances met the criteria for targeted execution.

Guiora said he and Brand are focusing on drones because they seem to be the future of warfare.

Guiora said he has heard from former military lawyers who support the drone court

"It tells me that people who have really been there understand what happens when there's unrestrained executive power," Curiora said

Official: US drone kills 9 Taliban

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — A suspected U.S. drone strike in Afghanistan killed nine alleged Pakistani Taliban fighters in a rural village near the mountainous border between the two countries, a local official said Sunday.

The strike Saturday afternoon hit the village of Shiltan in Kunar province's Shigal District, killing a senior commander of the insurgent group and also wounding a fighter, provincial police chief Gen. Abdul Habib Sayedkhili said. Sayedkhili said there were no civilian casualties from the strike.

There was no confirmation from NATO forces about the strike. Washington long has used drone strikes to kill militants in Afghanistan and neighboring Pakistan and U.S. officials rarely comment on the covert drone program run by the CIA.

The Taliban had no immediate comment about the strike. On Saturday, officials said two other suspected U.S. drone strikes killed four alleged Taliban fighters in Laghman province.

Belgium to commemorate historic Nazi defeat

Numerous events are planned to mark 70th anniversary of WWII's Battle of the Bulge

By MATT MILLHAM Stars and Stripes

he holidays are here; gas up the Sherman tank.

December is an extra special time for Belgium. Along with Christmas markets, presents and New Year's Eve, there's the cheerfully aggressive joy of celebrating a good of Nazi thrashing.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge, Germany's final, ill-fated offensive of World War II, which kicked off nearly two weeks before Christmas 1944. Though caught by surprise, American forces in the Ardennes rallied and drove back the Germans in what would be the bloodiest battle of the war for the U.S.

As it does every year, Belgium will pay tribute to the victors in a range of ways.

Platoons of military re-enactors in periold American uniforms will gather in local pubs for beers served in miniature ceramic helmets. Civilians will march along frozen trails in the footsteps of long-departed GIs. Young and old will gather around monuments and recall greater and lesser acts of heroism committed by American soldiers.

The main commemorations occur in Bastogne, a key crossroads where elements of the U.S. Army's 101st Airborne Division were outnanned 5-1 and surrounded by Nazi forces. When the Germans demanded that the Americans' surrender, acting 101st commander Anthony McAuliffe sent back a one-word reply that has become the backbone of Bastogne's celebration: "Nuts." The colonel who delivered the perplexing reply explained to the puzzled Germans that it meant they could go straight to hell.

The locals, meanwhile, have adopted a

much more literal take on McAuliffe's mild cuss. Hewing to a tradition started decades ago, dignitaries will gather on the balcony of Bastogne's town hall on Saturday to toss handfuls of walnuts into the crowd.

This year's event is bigger than usual, with Belgium's king and queen making an appearance Saturday afternoon. Bastogne, no doubt, will live up to its reputation as home of the biggest Bulge party in Europe.

no doubt, will live up to its reputation as home of the biggest Bulge party in Europe. Events taking place Saturday in Bastogne include, among many other activities:

■The annual commemorative walk, which departs at the Sports Center at 8 a.m. Register the day before or the morning of the walk. Distances range from about 5 to

■A wreath-laying at Bastogne's Patton Monument at 2:05 p.m. and at McAuliffe Square at 2:20 p.m.

Nuts throwing at Bastogne's town hall at 3:15 p.m.

■A Glenn Miller music concert at Bastogne's Place St. Pierre at 7 p.m.

The passage of time seems only to ampli-

The passage of time seems only of aniphy fy the Belgians' interest in preserving the memory of the Bulge. Along with marches, exhibitions and re-enactments, a handful of new plaques and memorials will be unveiled this year in towns across the Ardennes.

Other events and celebrations

■Now through Jan. 31: A free exhibition featuring photographs of the village of Gouvy during World War I and WWII at the Galerie du S.I., Rue de la Gare 31, Gouvy, Belgium.

■Dec. 12: The exhibition "From Texas to Bastogne, Texas Aggies Go to War," telling the story of five Texas A&M alums who fought in the Bulge, opens Friday in



Josh Smith/Stars and Stripes

A color guard of Belgian and American soldiers marches in a parade on Dec. 14, 2013, in Bastogne, Belgium.

Bastogne

■Dec. 13-14: A re-enactment in Recogne/ Cobru, about 5 miles northeast of Bastogne, that includes street decorations and re-enactors representing the 101st Airborne and 10th Armored Divisions. ■Dec. 14: The unveiling of the Desobry

Monument in Noville, 11 a.m.

■Dec. 14: A parade of military vehicles along Bastogne's Grand' Rue, 3 p.m.

■Dec. 14: A remembrance of the Malmedy Massacre at the memorial at the corner of the Route du Monument and Route de

Luxembourg in Baugnez, Belgium, 2 p.m.

Dec. 17-18: The Battle of the Bulge reenactment, Baugnez.

■Jan. 10: A march in the footsteps of the 83rd Division, Bihan, Belgium, 9 a.m. Participation is limited to 300 people. Go to 11janvier45.skyrock.com for more information.

■Feb. 21: A march in the footsteps of

the 82nd Airborne Division. Outside of Bastogne, this is the biggest walking commemoration of the Bulge. Re-enactors and civilians are welcome. The walk starts at 9 a.m. in La Gleize, Belgium. For more information, email freddy-vanput@skynet.be or emile.lacroix@skynet.be. For events and information, check out the

commemorations page at grandmenil.com.

Take note that it might be too late to book accommodations nearby for many of these events, particularly in Bastogne, where hotels rooms are at a premium at hits time of year. Parking is also limited, and driving through town is, in some cases, impossible. Prepare for a lot of walking.

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Spangdahlem airman faces retrial in 2010 car crash that killed 2

By JENNIFER H. SVAN Stars and Stripes

KAISESLAUTERN, Germany

—The new trial of a Spangdahlem
airman whose conviction and prison sentence for negligent homicide
were tossed out on a technicality
on appeal was to begin Monday.
Airman Basic Alan J. Linderen

faces a new round of charges for his alleged role in the deaths of two fellow airmen in a horrific, high-speed car crash on Germany's autobahn in July 2010. Killed were Amanda Jotham.

Killed were Amanda Jotham, 19, and Brandon McDonald, 20, airmen first class who were passengers in Lindgren's car. Lindgren lost control of his BMW M-3 on the A-60 between Spangdahlem Air Base and Bitburg while driving at an estimated 149 miles per hour, according to evidence presented at his first trial.

Lindgren sustained minor injuries.

At a court-martial in April 2011 at Spangdahlem, Lindgren was convicted of two counts of negligent homicide under Article 134 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. The military judge, Col. Dawn Eflein, sentenced him to 15 months in prison and reduced him in rank from airman first class to airman.

Lindgren had already served out his prison term when, two years after his conviction, the U.S. Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals dismissed the findings and punishment from Lindgren's 2011 trial.

The April 2013 ruling to dismiss stemmed from an opinion issued in August 2011 by the military's highest court in another case, base officials at Spangdahlem said in an email.

In U.S. v. Fosler, the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces held that charges under Article 134 must expressly allege "that the conduct was prejudicial to good order and discipline and/or was service discrediting," base officials said.

The charges in Lindgren's case
—though complying with the cur-

rent law at the time — did not include that specific language, base officials said.

The Air Force appeals court said in its opinion in Lingren's case that "there are very few acts more prejudicial or service discrediting than the unlawful killing of two fellow" airmen, but it ruled—on the basis of the higher court's subsequent decision—that the charges against Lindgren must specify such.

The new charges against Lindgren for the trial starting Monday do just that, according to the charge sheet.

Lindgren's Air Force career since his original conviction has been troubled. In December 2012,

he was convicted of a litany of drug-related charges, including using marijuana, spice and psilocybin mushrooms, and possessing and wrongful introduction of cocaine onto a military installation.

He was given a bad-conduct discharge, one year in prison and reduced in rank to E-1. Base officials at Spangdahlem

Base Unicias at Spanigument said Lindgren completed his second round of confinement and is on appellate, unpaid leave pending completion of the appeals process from his second trial.

The discharge is effective only after the appeals process is completed.

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MILITARY



11th MEU trains in Djibouti

Marines with the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit offload from an MV-22B Osprey during sustainment training in D'Arta Plage, Djibouti, on Dec. 1. The 11th MEU is deployed as a theater reserve and crisis response force throughout U.S. Central Command and the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility.

Navy civilian charged with theft asks judge to throw out hard drive evidence

BY STEVEN BEARDSLEY Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy — A Navy civilian accused of stealing government housing benefits and forging documents has asked the federal judge in his case to throw out evidence from an external hard drive seized by the Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

The motion by Steven William Ashton, 42, the former NATO and host-nation programs manager for the Navy in Nanles comes on the brink of his Monday trial on charges of theft and making false statements.

Prosecutors say the original mirror copy of the drive, made by NCIS agents who seized the device from Ashton's workplace, was found to be damaged after it was sent to storage. They say they have only a "working copy" of the drive, or the collection of files NCIS agents pulled from the original copy to pursue their investigation.

Ashton argues the working copy may misrepresent the contents of the original drive, which was wiped at some point.

"[I]t would be unfair in the extreme to admit evidence copied from an agent's working copy that was itself created by cherry-picking files that helped the government while ignoring files that could help Mr. Ashton," his at-torney, William P. Ziegelmueller, wrote in the motion submitted to a judge in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Iowa.

Prosecutors say the drive conincriminating evidence against Ashton, whom they accuse of illegally accepting \$360,000 in housing benefits, forging a lease when confronted about it and forging documents related to a consulting business he ran on the side of his Navy job.

A former Navy officer who separated in 2004 as a lieutenant commander, Ashton was responsible for NATO and host-nation facilities funded through the U.S. Navy, a multimillion-dollar program that placed him in contact with defense ministries across Europe, Africa and parts of the Middle East.

In October 2012, NCIS agents an investigation opened Ashton's housing benefits and allegations that he was using confidential information from his job to support his side venture, BlackGrid Consulting. Agents seized two hard drives in February 2013, one from Ashton's government computer and the other an external drive that they say was connected to the computer The prosecution says the external hard drive is the only one with criminal evidence.

Documents mentioned in court pleadings describe a company formed in 2010 with the aim of winning international development contracts for American and foreign clients. Ashton's business partner was an active-duty airman friend: a brother also worked with the business from his home in Iowa.

Prosecutors say that from the beginning, Ashton used his Navy position to help BlackGrid, emailing contacts from work for nossible clients and contracts and touting his Navy work experience in international development on BlackGrid's website.

Prosecutors say that in 2012, he helped an Italian firm win the construction contract for a library at the Air Force base in Aviano by passing along the government's estimated cost of the project, a figure normally kept under wraps. Ashton also wrote the winning bid, they say.

conflict of interest, but he is accused of forging documents to suggest he vetted BlackGrid with a military lawyer and received his employer's approval for the venture. Prosecutors claim Ashton passed those forgeries to investigators in 2013 via his lawyer, who was unaware they were fake

After Ashton's arrest in Naples on the charges related to the housing benefit, prosecutors forced the lawyer to testify before a grand jury, which later added the new counts concerning the consulting firm.

Prosecutors say Ashton continued to receive a housing benefit years after moving into an apartment owned by his girlfriend, who later became his wife. When confronted by investigators. Ashton produced a forged lease in the name of his father-in-law, they

say. Other counts accuse Ashton of forging documents to extend his tour in Naples and to maintain a military ID and access to the base commissary and exchange.

Ashton claims in pleadings he can prove he continued to pay rent after moving in with his girlfriend. He says his tour in Italy was properly extended, with no forged documents, and that he properly disclosed BlackGrid's dealings through a financial disclosure statement. He said he never forged documents or caused his former attorney to send forged documents to the government.

Ashton is charged with one count of theft and conversion, three counts of falsifying records in an investigation and six counts of making false statements during an investigation, one of which prosecutors have agreed to drop.

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Uruguay takes in 6 Gitmo prisoners

By BEN Fox

MIAMI - Six prisoners held for 12 years at Guantanamo Bay have been sent to Uruguay to be resettled as refugees, the U.S. government announced Sunday - a deal that had been delayed for months by security concerns at the Pentagon and political considerations in the South American country. The six men -

- four Syrians, a Tunisian and a Palestinian — are the first prisoners transferred to South America from the U.S. base in Cuba, part of a flurry of recent releases amid a renewed push by President Barack Obama to close the prison. All were detained as suspected

militants with ties to al-Qaida in 2002 but were never charged. They had been cleared for release since 2009 but could not be sent home, and the U.S. struggled to find countries willing to take

Uruguayan President Jose Mujica agreed to accept the men as a humanitarian gesture and said they would be given help getting established in a country with a small Muslim population.

"We are very grateful to Uruguay for this important humanitarian action, and to President Mujica for his strong leadership in providing a home for individuals who cannot return to their own countries," U.S. State Department envoy Clifford Sloan said.

Among those transferred was Abu Wa'el Dhiab, 43, a Syrian on a long-term hunger strike protesting his confinement who was at the center of a legal battle in U.S. courts over the military's use of force-feeding.

The Pentagon identified the other Syrians sent to Uruguay on Saturday as Ali Husain Shaaban, 32; Ahmed Adnan Ajuri, 37; and Abdelahdi Faraj, 39. Also released were Palestinian prisoner Mo-hammed Abdullah Taha Mattan, 35, and Adel bin Muhammad El Ouerghi, 49, of Tunisia.

Uruguayan officials declined comment Sunday on the transfers. Adriana Ramos, a receptionist at a military hospital in Montevideo, thecapital

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We are very grateful to Uruguay for this important humanitarian action. 7

lawver **Clifford Sloan** for Dhiab U.S. State from the Department envoy human rights

group Reprieve, praised Mujica, a former political prisoner himself, for accepting the men.

The U.S. has now transferred 19 prisoners out of Guantanamo this year, all but one of them within the last 30 days. Saturday's move brings the total number of prisoners still at Guantanamo to 136.

Obama administration officials had been frustrated that the transfer took so long, blaming outgoing Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel for not approving the move sooner. They said that after Muiica had agreed to take the men in January, the deal sat for months on Hagel's desk, awaiting his signature as required by law. The Pentagon transfer to Congress until July.

By then, the transfer had become an issue in Uruguay's political election, and officials there decided to postpone it until after the vote



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War on terrorism

Islamic State lacking high-level militant backing

By Raja Abdulrahim Los Angeles Times

Since declaring a caliphate, Islamic State has won the support of more than a dozen Islamist militant groups in the Middle East and Asia, but the dearth of endorsements from many of the largest and most recognizable groups shows the limits of the newcomer's grand ambitions.

The al-Qaida breakaway group has been a lightning rod for devout support and bitter enemies since entering the Syrian civil war in April 2013. Its advances into Iraq, gruesome tactics and, most pointedly, its declaration of an ultra-conservative Sunni Muslim state covering the wide portions of eastern Syria and northern Iraq that it currently controls, have led to U.S.-led airstrikes and pledges of allegiance from 13 fellow Islamist militant groups.

Others have thrown their support behind the Islamic State without putting themselves under the leadership of self-proclaimed caliph Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

But the best-known Islamist militant networks, such as major al-Qaida affiliates al-Shabaab and Al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb in Africa, the Taliban in Pakistan and Afghanistan, and Boko Haramin Nigeria, have not signed on to the movement that is seeking to position itself as the right-ful leader of Muslims worldwide and the preferred destination for would-be Islamist fighters.

"These elements of support do exist, but I don't think the caliphate announcement was as galvanizing or caused the huge shift that ISIS hoped it would," said Aymenn Jawad al-Tamimi, a fellow at the Global Research in International Affairs Center in Israel, using a common acronym for the Islamic State.

The closest the group has gotten to high-level backing was a recent statement by the Yemen-based al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula affirming support "for our brothers against the global crusader campaign." But the ideological differences between the groups are probably too great to lead to anything beyond solidarity.

Though the bump from its caliphate declaration may not have been as large as the group hoped, the Islamic State's popularity among militants has drawn more into its fold.

"That's one trump card they have, and you see that a lot on their recruitment messaging; ISIs is still emphasizing that most foreign fighters coming to Iraq and Syria are joining them," al-Tamimi said.

The tactic has the feel of a marketing strategy, coming from a group that has shown social media savvy. Thus far, though, they have scored the militant equivalent of D-list celebrity endorsements.

The Somali-based al-Shabaab recently rejected an attempt by Islamic State representatives to buy its allegiance, according to a report by the U.S.-based SITE Intelligence group, which monitors online militant activity.

"The majority of groups pleding support are smaller, lesser known groups that have weak or no ties to al-Qaida central leadership and are looking to affiliate themselves with [the Islamic State] in order to bolster their own jihadist credentials," Ser Jendruck, a terrorism analyst at Jane's Terrorism and Insurgency Centre, said in an email.



Fighters from the Islamic State group parade in a commandeered lraqi security forces armored vehicle down a main road in Mosul, northern Iraq, on June 23.



PHOTOS BY TAKE SIMKIN/

Dr. Mohammed Arif treats a wounded patient at a field hospital in Kobani, Svria, on Nov. 21.

Kobani clinic treats fighters opposing Islamic State group

he Associated Press

KOBANI, Syria — Like much of this battered Syrian Kurdish border town on the front lines in the battle against the Islamic State group, most of its hospitals and clinics now lie in ruins. Only one is still working — but its location is kept secret for fear it could be targeted by the militants.

Inside the tiny field clinic, saving lives and dealing with horrifying wounds of war come first, and concerns such as keeping operating rooms sterile and cleaning up after surgery are on the back burner.

Blood is splattered across most of the beds and floors, and a team of three doctors and five nurses is providing the only remaining medical services in the town. They are sometimes forced to operate by flashlight because power generators regularly fail.

They treat a seemingly unending flood of wounded Kurdish fighters and members of the Free Syrian Army, just yards away from the front lines.

The Spartan clinic has only the very basic equipment and regularly runs out of supplies. Those with more critical wounds must make a mad dash for the border with Turkey and wait there for transportation to a better hospital in the neighboring country.

Losing precious time in the perilous journey often diminishes their chances for survival.

"If we had a mobile operating unit, we wouldn't have to leave our wounded at the Turkish border to wait for six or 10 hours, where they sometimes die," said Mohammed Aref, a doctor at the Kobani clinic.

An exclusive report shot by videojournalist Jake Simkin inside Kobani late last month offered a rare, in-depth glimpse of the destruction that more than two months of fighting has inflicted on the Kurdish town in northern Syria by the Turkish border.

The Kurdish fighters of Kobani, backed by a small number of Iraqi peshmerga forces and Syrian rebels, are locked in what they say is a fight to the end against the Islamic State, which swept into the town in mid-September. The militants' advance was part of a summer blitz after the Islamic State overran large parts of Syria and neighboring Iraq.

Kobani, which once had a population of about 50,000, has seen some of the fiercest urban warfare in Syria's civil war, now in its fourth year, and has paid a heavy price for battling the Islamic State extremistic.

Aref and the others at the Kobani clinic say the immobility of their facility slows them down because they cannot venture far outside and treat the wounded at the scene — as paramedics and mobile doctors elsewhere do in combat situations.



A Kurdish fighter receives medical attention at a field hospital in Kobani after a bullet grazed his

Still, Aref is dedicated to saving Kobani's wounded as best he can and dreams of someday rebuilding the town clinics and working in a safe operating theater.

Helped by more than 270 airstrikes from a U.S.led coalition and an American airdrop of weapons, the fighters in Kobani have succeeded in halting the militants' advance and believe that a corner has been turned.

But the fight against the Islamic State is not slowng down.

"We know that the number (of wounded) will increase and more injured will come so we have to be ready," said Aref. "The most important thing for us is having an operating room."

War on terrorism

Raid: US team on ground less than 30 minutes

FROM FRONT PAGE

The failure to bring the hostages out alive following two earlier attempts to rescue U.S. captives in recent months was likely to raise questions about the operations and the intelligence that preceded them.

Last summer's raid to rescue Americans being held in Syria by the Islamic State group, and an attempt to rescue Somers two weeks ago, did not succeed because in both cases the hostages had been moved before the commandos arrived. Two of the Islamic State hostages, journalists James Foley and Steven Sotloff, were later executed.

In a video released Wednesday following the initial attempt to rescue Somers, al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, or AQAP, warned "Obama and the American government of the consequences of proceeding ahead in any other foolish action.

Unspecified demands

The threat to execute Somers within 72 hours if unspecified demands were not met led to op-erational planning for a second rescue attempt, which President Barack Obama approved early Friday. Officials said U.S. intelligence gleaned from the first attempt contributed to their certainty of where Somers was being held, in a group of compounds that make up a small village in Shabwah governate, a remote region along the Gulf of Aden.

Defense, intelligence and administration officials spoke on the condition of anonymity to provide details of the secret operation.

It was not immediately clear whether the commandos knew of Korkie's presence in the compound. The tragedy of the South African's death appeared to worsen when the South African relief organization that employed him, Gift of the Givers Foundation, said his negotiated release had been expected Sunday.

Korkie, who had been working as a teacher in Yemen, and his wife, Yolande, were abducted in May 2013, Yolande Korkie was released from captivity in January, according to a post on the foundation's website.

Somers, 33, a British-born U.S. citizen, was abducted in September 2013 from the Yemeni capital, Sanaa, on a busy street near a supermarket He had been working in the country as a freelance photojournalist.

Hostage executions, video-re-



Luke Somers, an American photojournalist who was kidnapped over a year ago by al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, uses a camera during an April 16, 2013, demonstration in front of the U.S. Embassy in Sanaa, Yemen, demanding the release of Yemeni detainees in the Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, prison.

corded by militants and disseminated online and via social media, have placed increasing pressure on the Obama administration to launch rescue attempts. While a number of militant-held European hostages have been released in exchange for million-dollar ransoms. the administration has said that payment will only increase the number of hostages taken. It has refused to pay and has pressured other governments not to participate in ransom negotiations.

Although the administration last spring traded five Taliban detainees from the prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for a U.S. servicemember captured in Afghanistan and being held in Pakistan, it described that negotiation as an exchange of war prisoners rather than a hostage ransom.

300 feet from hostages

The three failed attempts to rescue hostages alive through military means come as U.S. Special Forces have conducted a series of successful raids to capture wanted militants. In June, Ahmed Abu Khattala, indicted for alleged participation in the 2012 attack in Benghazi, Libva, that left four American officials dead, was snatched in a raid in Libya. He is awaiting trial in this country.

But taking a suspect off the street at a time of U.S. choosing, and rescuing hostages held by well-armed militants anticipating a raid are different matters.

As described by U.S. officials, about 40 Navy SEALs were transported from the Makin Island, said

to be located "in close proximity to Yemen," aboard V-22 Osprey aircraft that fly like airplanes but can land like helicopters. Using night-vision equipment, they began walking over terrain described as "hilly, scrubby" and "rough."

As the team approached the compound and were about 300 feet away, "they lost the element of surprise," an official said, and a firefight with the militants began Officials said they were not certain how the team had been spotted.

Because of the direction of fire a defense official said, they were nearly 100 percent certain that Somers and the other hostage were killed by the AQAP militants and not in crossfire.

Via overhead surveillance that was maintained throughout the rescue attempt, one militant was seen going into the building where Somers was known to be held a senior administration official said. The militant stayed "for about a five to seven count ... long enough, of course, to shoot people or take any other action. We didn't have visibility inside."

By the time the commandos reached the building, the administration official said, "the terrorist had already fled."

The defense official said five AQAP militants had been killed in the firefight. None was captured.

The wounded hostages, found inside the building, were immediately evacuated aboard an Osprey, "one perished on the way" to the Makin Island and "the other on the operating table" aboard the ship, an amphibious assault vessel.

The U.S. forces were not on the ground more than 30 minutes, said the defense official, who described it as "a quick fight."

A flurry of Twitter postings from jihadists in Yemen claimed that three U.S. "Marines" and eight Yemeni special forces were killed during the operation.

Video led to family's plea

Reached Saturday by The Associated Press, Somers' sister, Lucy Somers, said the family had been notified of his death by the FBI but asked that the family be "allowed to mourn in peace.

Since his kidnapping last year, Somers' family had appealed for news of the abduction not to be made public. But after the AQAP video was released Wednesday, the family released their own video.

"He is a good person, and he has only been trying to do good things for the Yemeni population. He goes out of his way to care for and respect the common person, and he has made many lasting friends in Yemen," Somers' brother said in the video. "Luke is only a photojournalist, and he is not responsible for any action the U.S. government has taken. Please understand that we had no prior knowledge of the rescue attempt for Luke and we mean no harm to anyone."

His mother also spoke, pleading for mercy.

"Give us an opportunity to see our Luke again. He is all that we have '

Attack on police station in Iraq kills 9 people

BAGHDAD - Militants attacked a police station in an Iraqi village north of Baghdad, killing at least nine people Sunday, officials said.

The attack started at dawn with a suicide car bomber hitting the blast walls that surround the police station in the village of al-Salman, outside the town of Tarmiyah, a police officer said. He said an assault by armed militants followed.

He said the attack killed five police officers and four civilians while wounding 11 people.

Two medical officials confirmed the casualty figures. All officials spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to release the information. Tarmiyah is about 30 miles

north of Baghdad. No group immediately claimed

responsibility for the attack. The attack came a day after a string of bombings targeting

Shiite areas around Baghdad killed 10 people amid tight security measures to protect Shiite pilgrims heading to the holy city of Karbala to attend the religious commemoration known as Arbaeen.

Syrian planes target militants at air base

BEIRUT - Syrian government warplanes carried out at least eight strikes Sunday against Islamic State militants attacking a key military air base in eastern Syria, activists said. The Islamic State group

launched its assault on the sprawling airfield just outside the city of Deir el-Zour last week, touching off fighting that activists say has killed more than 150 people on both sides. For the Islamic State group, seizing control of the base would eliminate the last significant government presence in the area and provide a major morale and propaganda boost.

The Local Coordination Committees activist collective and the Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said Sunday's airstrikes targeted four areas near the base.

After Islamic State fighters succeeded in storming part of the base, the Syrian military on Saturday launched a counterattack - bolstered by heavy air raids

to push the militants back. Scattered clashes on the ground continued Sunday with fighting on several fronts around the base activists said A Syrian military official in

Damascus told The Associated Press that troops are in full control of the base.

From The Associated Press

Syria: Israeli airstrikes hit near Damascus

DAMASCUS, Syria - Israeli warplanes carried out two airstrikes Sunday near Damascus, one near the city's international airport and a second outside a town close to the Lebanese border, Syria's state news agency said.

SANA called the attack "an aggression against Syria" and said there were no reports of casualties. The Israeli military said it does not comment on "foreign reports.' Syria's state news agency did

not provide any details on what was hit near the Damascus airport or in the town of Dimas, which is located along the main highway from the Syrian capital to the Lebanese frontier crossing.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a Britain-based

group that monitors the country's civil war through a network of activists on the ground, said the strike near the Damascus airport hit a warehouse, although it was unclear what was in the building.

The observatory also said that about 10 explosions could be heard outside a military area near Dimas. It had no word on casualties in either strike.

From The Associated Press



Officers may have curtailed bloodshed on train in Mich.

The Associated Press

NILES, Mich. — Police officers struggling to get through a chaotic scene aboard an Amtrak train in Michigan are being credited with preventing even more bloodshed after a man stabbed a conductor and three fellow passengers. It was pretty incredible that

"It was pretty incredible that they may have saved some lives," passenger Tyler Vandermolen

Michael Williams, 44, of Saginaw, Mich., was charged Saturday with attempted murder. He's accused of stabbing four people while the train was stopped Friday night at a depot in Niles in southwestern Michigan, about

It was pretty incredible that they may have saved some lives.

Tyler Vandermolen Amtrak passenger of South Bend,
Ind. The victims were
reported to
be in stable
condition.

Officers rushed to the scene after Amtrak called

Amtrak called police about a passenger acting suspiciously on the Chicago-to-Port Huron train, Niles police Chief Jim

"They saw commotion in the train car," Millin said of his of-ficers. "They had to forcefully work their way through the crowd. As soon as the first officer turned into the car, Mr. Williams was less than 10 feet away and he had the knife in his hand. The officer used his Taser and was able to subdue" him.

"Certainly there's a possibility he could have kept on assaulting passengers, and things could have been a lot worse," the chief told The Associated Press.

The motive wasn't known. Williams was being held on \$1 million bond Saturday at the Berrien County jail, and his initial court appearance was scheduled for Monday.

"It doesn't appear he was

"It doesn't appear he was screaming or in anger against any of these people. He just started cutting and stabbing," Millin said. Niles Mayor Michael McCauslin

Niles Mayor Michael McCauslin said the wounded included a train conductor, a female passenger and two male passengers.

The train, which had been carrying 172 passengers, remained in Niles for hours after the attack while investigators gathered evidence and spoke to witnesses. It finally resumed its journey at 1:20 a.m. Saturday.

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Passenger Caitlin Cipri told the
South Bend Tribune that she was
packing her things to get off the
train when she heard screaming.
She initially thought the suspect
was punching a passenger until
she saw the butt of a knife. She
said she saw the man stab two
other neonle.

"It was terrifying, and you don't think something like that is going to happen to you," Cipri said.



PHOTOS BY SAM WOLSON, SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE/AP

Demonstrators toss out smoke bombs during a march in Berkeley, Calif., on Saturday night.

Calif. protest turns violent

By Verena Dobnik The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Mostly peaceful protests of a grand jury's decision not to indict a white police officer in the chokehold death of an unarmed black man continued around the country, but authorities said a march in California turned violent when a splinter group smashed windows and threw objects at police.

A Berkeley police officer received hospital treatment for a dislocated shoulder after being hit with a sandbag, while another sustained minor injuries, police spokeswoman Jenn Coats said.

She said several businesses were looted and damaged when a splinter group broke off from the peaceful demonstration Saturday night and officers attempting to get the crowd to disperse used smoke and tear gas. Protesters threw rocks, bricks, bottles, pipes and other objects at officers, and some squad cars were damaged.

At least six people had been arrested by the time the unrest ended early Sunday morning, Coats said.

Thousands of demonstrators have protested peacefully in New York and elsewhere since the announcement Wednesday that a grand jury declined to indict a white officer in the death of Eric Garner, a black man who gasped, "I can't breathe!" while being placed in a chokehold as he was being arrested for selling loose, untaxed cigarettes.

The decision closely followed a Ferguson, Mo., grand jury's choice not to indict a white officer in the fatal shooting of Michael Brown, an unarmed black 18-year-old

The scope of the demonstrations and the lack of violence were mov-



Demonstrators clash with police in front of a man who injured his leg during the protest.

ing to Garner's mother and widow, they said Saturday.

"It is just so awesome to see how the crowds are out there," said Erric Garner's mother, Gwen Carr, who added that she ended up stuck in her car after protests shut down traffic

"I was just so proud of that crowd," Carr said. "It just warmed my heart."

Garner's widow, Esaw Garner, said she saw demonstrators from her apartment window and told her son, "Look at all the love that your father's getting."
Officers have said the outcry

Officers have said the outcry over the grand jury decision has left them feeling betrayed and demonized by everyone from the president and the mayor to throngs of protesters who scream at them on the street.

Garner's family members joined the Rev. Al Sharpton on Saturday as Sharpton laid a wreath at the site on Staten Island where Garner died July 17 in a confrontation that started when police tried to arrest him.

Protests continued in New York

City for a fourth day, with several dozen people lying down on the floor of Grand Central Terminal and marching into stores in Times Square. There were no reports of arrests.

Protests have also been held in Philadelphia, Chicago, Miami, Las Vegas and a number of other cities

In Seattle, several hundred people marched downtown to police headquarters Saturday. Authorities said a group then split off from the main protest and tried to get onto a roadway. Police say some protesters threw rocks at officers who blocked them from entering it. Seven were arrested.

Sharpton announced plans last week for a march in Washington next Saturday to protest the killings of Garner, Brown and others and to press for change at the federal level.

Profiling guidelines aren't inclusive

By Eric Tucker
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Federal agents who guard the border and screen passengers at airports would be exempt from new racial profiling guidelines that must be observed by the FBI and other law enforcement agencies. The Obama administration is to announce those guidelines in coming days, but officials say the changes would curtail numerous federal agencies from considering factors such as religion and national origin during investigations.

A U.S. official familiar with the guidelines said Friday night that the new rules banning racial profiling exempt the Transportation Security Administration and also do not cover inspections at ports of entry and interdictions at border crossings. The official was not authorized to discuss the guidelines by name and spoke on condition of anonymity ahead of a formal anouncement expected soon.

nouncement expected soon.

The new guidelines apply to federal law enforcement agent but aren't binding on local police departments whose officers are more likely to have day-to-day contact with community members. Their formulation also longer predates the high-profile cases, such as the police shooting in August in Ferguson, Mo., that have placed police treatment of minorities in the spotlight.

The guidelines are nonetheless a significant legacy for outgoing Attorney General Eric Holder and come during a time of national reckoning about racial bias in law enforcement and community relations with police.

"This new guidance will codify

"This new guidance will codify our commitment to the very highest standards of fair and effective policing," Holder told an audience in Atlanta last Monday night in previewing the announcement

Federal law enforcement agents are banned from routine racial profiling under a 2003 Bush administration policy that created a significant exemption for national security investigations. The nepolicy will go beyond the decade-old one, expanding the definition of racial profiling to ban the practice on the basis of characteristics including religion, national origin and sexual orientation, the official solid.

The American Civil Liberties Union said the inclusion of those categories represented a "significant leap forward" in guarding against profiling.

The guidelines will not end the FBI's ability to collect racial and ethnic information about neighborhoods, a practice known as "mapping" that has long disquieted civil liberties advocates, said Laura Murphy, director of the ACLU's Washington Legislative

"In essence, the guidance is a major improvement, but it's not sufficient." she said.

Office.

Last of Senate's Deep South Dems defeated

By MELINDA DESLATTE AND BILL BARROW The Associated Press

BATON ROUGE, La. - Republican Rep. Bill Cassidy has denied Democratic Sen. Mary Landrieu, of Louisiana, a fourth term, calling his Senate victory "the exclamation point" on midterm elections that



Landrieu

put Republicans in charge on Capitol Hill for President Barack last years in office.

With nearly votes counted, unofficial returns showed Cassidy with a commanding victory in Saturday's runoff as he ousted the last of the Senate's Deep

South Democrats. In the South, Democrats will be left without a single U.S. senator or governor across nine states stretching from the Carolinas to Texas.

Cassidy, after a campaign spent largely linking Landrieu to Obama, called his win more of the same message American voters sent nationally on Nov. 4 as Republicans scored big gains in both chambers of Congress.

"This victory happened because people in Louisiana voted for a government that serves us, that does not tell us what to do," Cassidy said in Baton Rouge, the state capital

He did not mention Obama nor offer any specifics about his agenda in the Senate, but said in his victory speech that voters have demanded "a conservative direction" on health care, budgets and energy policy

Following Cassidy's victory, Republicans will hold 54 seats when the Senate convenes in January, nine more than they



Surrounded by family and friends, Republican Louisiana Sen.-elect Rep. Bill Cassidy celebrates his win and thanks supporters for their help during his election watch party Saturday in Baton Rouge, La.

Republican victories in two Louisiana House districts on Saturday - including the seat Cassidy now holds at least 246 seats, compared with 188 for Democrats, the largest GOP advantage since the Truman administration after World War II. An Arizona recount leaves one House race still outstanding.

Landrieu narrowly led a Nov. 4 Senate primary ballot that included eight candidates from all parties. But at 42 percent, she fell well below her marks in previous races and was sent into a one-month runoff campaign that Republicans dominated

over the airwaves.

The GOP sweep also denied former Louisiana Gov. Edwin Edwards a political comeback at age 87. The colorful politician who had served four terms as governor in the past had sought a return to public office after eight years in federal prison on corruption charges.

Landrieu hugged tearful supporters and sought to strike an upbeat chord Saturday night after her defeat. Her defeat was also a blow for one of Louisiana's most famous political families, leaving her brother, New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu, to carry the banner.

"We may not have won tonight, but we have certainly won some extraordinary victories," she told supporters, citing her role in directing additional oil and gas royalties to Louisiana and securing federal aid after multiple hurricanes and the 2010 Gulf oil spill.

'It's been a fight worth waging," she said in New Orleans. She also said she was "proud" of her efforts to expand health care access, though she didn't specifically mention the Affordable Care Act

The Louisiana race mirrored contests in other states this election season, with Landrieu, 59, joining Alaska Sen. Mark Begich, North Carolina Sen. Kay Hagan and Arkansas Sen. Mark Pryor in defeat. Democrats ceded seats in Montana, South Dakota and West Virginia after incumbents opted not to run again.

Like victorious Republicans in those races, Cassidy, 57, an Illinois native, made his bid against Landrieu more about Obama than about his own vision for the job.

In a state where 73 percent of white voters on Nov. 4 told pollsters they "strongly disapproved" of the president, that was enough to prevent Landrieu from finding her footing as she tried several lines of attack.

Her anchor argument was that her seniority was a boon for Louisiana, particularly her chairmanship of the Senate's energy committee, an important panel for this oilrich Gulf Coast state. That argument was gutted Nov. 4 when Republicans won the Senate majority, meaning Landrieu would have lost her post even had she won.

The incumbent had argued the race shouldn't be about Obama, but also targeted advertising on radio stations geared to the black community, where the president remains popular. She hammered Cassidy as unfit for the job and more interested in partisanship than helping Louisiana.

Obama, GOP-led Congress gird for veto showdowns

By Charles Babington AND JIM KUHNHENN

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Veto brinkmanship between congressio-nal Republicans and President Barack Obama was virtually absent in his first six years in office. but it's about to unleash itself on Washington.

Until now. Republican-backed legislation rarely reached the president's desk because Senate Democrats blocked it. Starting in January, however, Republicans will control both the House and the Senate, and Obama may have to decide more often whether to sign or veto GOP-crafted bills.

Obama gave lawmakers an early taste of veto politics recently when he forced congressional leaders to drop a proposed package of tax breaks that were popular with many Republican constituents. Some Democrats did support the plan, but liberals and the White House said it tilted too heavily toward corporations not lower-income workers.

The White House also has promised to veto any bills restricting the president's major changes to immigration policies. setting up likely showdowns early next year.

Obama's threats present the type of bind that Republicans may face repeatedly in the next two years. They can agree to many or all of the changes he demands in legislation, or they can let him use his veto and hope Americans

will blame him more than them. It's a gamble, especially with critical spending bills Congress soon must address. Some Republicans want to amend those mustpass bills to thwart Obama's bid to protect millions of immigrants, now in the country illegally, from deportation.

Assuming Obama keeps his veto promise, Republican lawmakers would have to decide whether to drop their demands or let parts of the federal government close for lack of money. GOP leaders say there will be no shutdowns, but they have yet to explain how they can force Obama to back off on immigration.

The 2013 partial government shutdown occurred under similar partisan circumstances. Polls show the public blamed congressional Republicans more than the Democratic president.

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Forget Paris: Every city with hipsters emulates the NYC borough

By BETH J. HARPAZ/The Associated Press

NEW YORK

or more than a century, cities around the world have compared themselves to Paris. Many claim to be the Paris of the East: Bucharest, Prague, Istanbul, Beirut and Shanghai to name a few. There's also the Paris of North America (Montreal), the Paris of South America (Buenos Aires) and the Paris of the Plains — Kansas City in the Jazz Age.

But now the wannabe city is Brooklyn. Every neighborhood with a critical mass of bearded hipsters, bike shops and vegan cafes calls itself "the new Brooklyn." Ballard is the Brooklyn of Seattle. Glasgow and Melbourne both claim Brooklyn cool. And Oakland, Calif., has been called the Brooklyn of San Francisco so many times that Julia Cosgrove, editor of AFAR travel magazine, says she "can't bear to read another story about it."

There's even a Brooklyn of Paris: the oncegritty suburb of Pantin. Its dereliet, graffticovered warehouses have been taken over by galleries and artists, turning it into the hippest place in the City of Light. Just like in Brooklyn, real estate prices have shot up, and old industrial buildings now house luxury lofts.

"It may have a way to go before it's on a par with Brooklyn, but I expect it will continue to develop, considering how much investment and risk-taking is going on there — alongside the natural flux of artists toward the area," said artist Oliver Beer, who works both with a gallery in Pantin and with the Museum of Modern Art's contemporary arts outpost, PSI, in New York City.

Other signs of what's called the "Brooklynization of Paris" are popping up.
"It used to be when young chefs studied

under the great chefs, they wanted to open important restaurants or go to the countryside and get their Michelin star," said Katherine Johnstone, a spokeswoman for Atout France USA, the French tourism agency in New York, describing a shift that some observers compare to Brooklyn's culinary scene. "Now they're rejecting that model, they're saying, 'I'm going to do more back-to-the-roots, farmto-table cooking in a small restaurant with a few tables.'"

Tourism folks in Asheville, N.C., say their city was once called the Paris of the South, but now they compare it to Brooklyn, thanks to artisanal food, indie entrepreneurs and a thriving music and arts scene. An emerging arts and entertainment district in Miami that will link to areas like Wynwood, known for street art, is said by promoters to be "like Brooklyn in its nascent days" — an interesting thought, since Brooklyn was settled by the Dutch in the 1600s. And San Diego's South Park-North Park neighborhood is called SoNo, but it would be a no-no to compare it to Soho. Instead it claims a mix of Brooklyn and Southern California vibes.

But cities that once compared themselves to Paris were evoking something much grander than culinary trends or gentrification. In the mid-19th century, the "narrow, labyrinthine streets" of medieval Paris were demolished, making way "for the massive boulevards and squares where restaurants, cafes, theaters and other centers of amusement satisfied bourgeois taste," according to Villanova University history professor Alexander Varias. Cultural capitals in many regions underwent similar redesigns, then called themselves the Paris of wherever to signal pride in their architecture, broad boulevards, parks, arts and even nightlife.

Meamwhile, Brooklyn's emergence as a global symbol of all things trendy marks quite a turnaround for a place once mocked as Manhattan's less sophisticated neighbor even if the new Brooklyn has new problems, like young professionals and affluent families pushing out the poor and working-class folks who populated Brooklyn for decades.

"We've become the epicenter of cool as cool on ow defined," said Marty Markowitz, 69, who was born and raised in Brooklyn in an era when it was better-known for ethnic enclaves, working-class culture and the Brooklyn Dodgers. Markowitz, who served as Brooklyn borough president for 12 years and now works for NYC & Company, the city's tourism agency, promoting all the boroughs, added, "There is no question that Brooklyn now serves as an example for other urban centers of how a community can transform itself into a hotbed of style."

Clockwise from top left: Restaurants line the street adjacent to the Brooklyn Brewery in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn, N.Y.; the Ourcq canal runs through Pantin, east of Paris; the Mark Morris Dance Center is located in an emerging arts district in the Fort Greene section of Brooklyn; Austrian gallerist Thaddeus Ropac opened his third self-named art gallery in Pantin in 2012.

WORLD

1st ID confirmed from remains in case of Mexico's missing 43

By E. EDUARDO CASTILLO AND MARIA VERZA The Associated Press

MEXICO CITY - More than two months after they disappeared, concrete evidence is being to emerge on the fate of 43 college students whose case has caused a political crisis in Mexico. At least one of them has been identified among charred remains found several weeks ago near a garbage dump, family and government officials say.

Though there was no official announcement Saturday, rela-tives and fellow students at the Rural Normal School in Avotzinana said experts had confirmed the identity of missing student Alexander Mora, a teenage farmer whose classmates called him "The Rock" for his determination.

"He was a classmate who was very strong, very persevering in whatever he had as a goal," said student leader Omar Garcia. "It's a big loss.

The families were given the information late Friday by an Argentine team of forensic experts working on behalf of the relatives and with the Attorney General's Office, relatives said. Mora's parents were surrounded by members of the school community in their hometown of El Pericon in an area of southern Guerrero state known as the Costa Chica.

Garcia said they received the news "with a lot of courage, valor, dignity and determination."
"When his father, Ezequiel,

heard the news, the only thing he told us is that he wants justice. Garcia added.

The identification confirmed what Attorney General Jesus Murillo Karam told parents in November: that the students rounded up in a conflict with police had been killed and incinerated by a drug gang. The horrific story with no witnesses and barely a trace of the 43 young men led parents to discount the story, saying they would keep searching and expected to find their children alive

Parents of the missing marched with thousands of people Saturday evening in a previously planned protest in Mexico City, descending from buses with sullen faces, most declining to speak to reporters.

The students went missing Sept. 26 after confrontations with police in the Guerrero city of Iguala that killed three students and three bystanders. Murillo Karam has said they were attacked by police on orders of Iguala's thenmayor, Jose Luis Abarca, who has since been detained after going into hiding



Relatives of 43 missing students from the Isidro Burgos rural teachers college stand on a stage with pictures of their missing loved ones during a protest Saturday in Mexico City.



A man rides a tricycle taxi en route to an evacuation center as strong winds and rains from Typhoon Hagupit hit Legazpi, Albay province, eastern Philippines on Sunday.

Philippines sees no major damage in typhoon; 2 dead

By Teresa Cerojano The Associated Press

LEGAZPI, Philippines - Typhoon Hagupit knocked out power, left at least two people dead and sent nearly 900,000 into shelters before it weakened Sunday, sparing the central Philippines the type of massive devastation that a monster storm brought to the region last year.

Shallow floods, damaged shanties and ripped-off store signs and tin roofs were a common sight across the region, but there was no major destruction after Hagupit slammed into Eastern Samar and other island provinces. It was packing maximum sustained winds of 87 mph and gusts of 106 mph on Sunday, considerably weaker than its peak power but still a potentially deadly storm, according to forecasters

The typhoon, which made land-

fall in Eastern Samar late Saturday, was moving slowly, dumping heavy rain that could possibly trigger landslides and flash floods.

Traumatized by the death and destruction from Typhoon Haiyan last year, nearly 900,000 people fled to about 1,000 emergency shelters and safer grounds. The government, backed by the 120,000-strong military, had launched massive preparations to attain a zero-casualty target.

Rhea Estuna. 29. a mother of one, fled Thursday to an evacuation center in Tacloban — the city hardest-hit by Haiyan — and waited in fear as Hagupit's wind and rain lashed the school where she and her family sought refuge. When she peered outside Sunday. she said she saw a starkly different aftermath than the one she witnessed after Haiyan struck in November 2013.

"There were no bodies scat-

tered on the road, no big mounds of debris," Estuna told The Associated Press by cellphone. Thanks to God this typhoon wasn't as violent."

Haiyan's tsunami-like storm surges and killer winds left thousands of people dead and leveled entire villages, most of them in and around Tacloban.

Nearly a dozen countries, led by the United States and the European Union, have pledged to help in case of a catastrophe from Hagupit, disaster-response agency chief Alexander Pama said.

Two people, including a baby girl, died of hypothermia in central Iloilo province Saturday at the height of the typhoon, Pama said at a news conference.

Two women were injured when the tricycle taxi they were riding was struck by a falling tree in central Negros Oriental province.

N. Korea denies responsibility for Sony hack, calls it 'righteous deed'

By Foster Klug The Associated Press

SEOUL South Korea - North Korea released a statement Sunday that clearly relished a cyberattack on Sony Pictures. which is producing an upcoming film that depicts an assassination plot against Pyongyang's supreme leader.

While denying responsibility for an attack last week that disrupted Sony's computer system and spewed confidential information onto the Internet, an unidentified spokesman for the North's powerful National Defense Commission acknowledged that it "might be a righteous deed of the supporters and sympathizers" of the North's call for the world to turn out in a 'just struggle" against U.S. imperialism.

"We do not know where in America the Sony Pictures is situated and for what wrongdoings it became the target of the attack, nor (do) we feel the need to know about it," the statement carried in state media said. "But what we clearly know is that the Sony Pictures is the very one which was going to produce a film abetting a terrorist act while hurting the dignity of the supreme leadership of" North Korea.

North Korea has built a cult of personality around the Kim family, which has ruled for three generations, and sees any outside criticism or mockery of its leader as an attack on its sovereignty. It recently opened fire on anti-Pyongyang propaganda balloons that North Korean defectors in the South were floating across the border into the North.

The Sony movie in question, "The Interview," is a comedy starring Seth Rogen and James Franco, and its plot concerns an attempt on the life of leader Kim Jong Un. Pyongyang is not amused.

The statement said the North's enemies, the United States and South Korea, had "groundlessly linked the hacking attack

The United States should know that there are a great number of supporters and sympathizers with (North Korea) all over the world as well as the 'champions of peace' who attacked the Sony Pictures, the statement said. "The righteous reaction will get stronger to smash the evil doings.

Some cybersecurity experts say they've found striking similarities between the code used in the hack of Sony Pictures Entertainment and attacks blamed on North Korea that targeted South Korean compa-

nies and government agencies last vear Experts are divided, however, over the likelihood that North Korea or independent hackers were involved.

with" Pyongyang, but the denial also in-

PACIFIC

Report: China is outpacing US in navy growth

By Ishaan Tharoor The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — By 2020, the Chinese navy will have more military vessels than its American counterpart, predicts a U.S. congressional commission on China. An annual report presented to Congress by the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission projected that Beijing's fleet could boast as many as 351 wessels in six years, a figure that

would be larger than current estimates for the American navy.

China's well-documented naval expansion includes a considerable increase in submarines, its number of nuclear submarines is projected to nearly triple between 2000 and 2020. China recently launched its first aircraft carrier. It's unveiling new destroyers as well as amphibious assault vessels.

It has developed significant missile capabilities aboard its fleet. Since 1989, the Chinese military's budget has grown by double-digit percentages each year.

The growth of China's navy comes at a time when the U.S. has, according to some critics, conspicuously cut back for budgetary reasons. "Given China's growing navy and the U.S. Navy's planned decline in the size of its fleet, the balance of power and presence in the region is shifting in China's direction," the commission reports.

That hardly means China is able to match up to U.S. capabilities, particularly given the considerable advantage the U.S. has with its sizable fleet of aircraft carriers and a wide range of other clear technological strengths.

But China's gains are subtly changing the calculus in the region, spurring other regional powers into an escalating arms race. For decades, the U.S. has guaranteed security in the Pacific, but that Pax Americana appears untenable, at least in the long view of China's military strategists.

An expanding Chinese navy may not be a direct challenge to the U.S. But as tensions over disputed islands and waters flare in Asia, it raises questions to what degree Washington is willing to commit itself to allies and check China's advances. Six years from now, let alone six decades, that delicate balance will be all the more precarious.

Learning about N. Korea, South's kids find differences

By Anna Fifield The Washington Post

GYEONGJU, South Korea — Concepts like political repression, debilitating hunger and torture are difficult for tweenage girls orgrasp. But rules stipulating that their skirts must be at least kneelength? Restrictions on how long they can grow their hair? Now that gets their attention.

Here in the ancient capital of the Shilla kingdom, one of the realms of a fractured Korean Peninsula more than a millenum ago, about 120 students from a nearby middle school recently went on a field trip with a difference: They were learning about piecing together the current fractured peninsula.

At this "unification camp" run by an educational institute attached to the South Korean unification ministry, the 12- and 13-year-olds thought about what kinds of jobs there would be when the two Koreas reunite, they did art projects related to unification, and they watched a comedic skit in which a North Korean woman fell in love with a South Korean man. They shrieked when the couple lowered an umbrella in front of them and then wiped their smiling lips when they took it away.

But they also got a glimpse into just how different the two halves can be — when one, the North, regulates even personal appearance.

"The purpose of this camp is to raise leaders after unification," said Kim Jun-hee, of the institute. "These are the people who will live in the time of a unified Korea, so we're trying to get them to think about unification."

This is a huge change in the way South Koreans are taught to think about their estranged neighbors. Ask any group of 40-year-old South Koreans what they learned about North Korea in elementary school and they will recount stories of being told to draw pictures of red devils with horns and to write the words "I hate communists."

North Korea is a complicated issue for South Koreans, who share the same blood and language and traditions but who, after almost 70 years of division, live very different realities.

Those in the North live in the world's most highly repressed state, and hunger remains part of



PHOTOS BY SHIN WOONG-JAE/For The Washington Post

Daegu Sosun junior high school students watch a video about North Korea on Wednesday in Gyeongju, South Korea.

most people's daily existence. In the South, people use their smartphones as credit cards and it's hard to walk a city center block without encountering some kind of protest. Older Southerners generally re-

Ölder Southerners generally remember the pain of the war or the pain of separation, but younger ones seldom feel they have much in common with the people in the North, and worry about the cost of reunification on their hightech, consumerist lifestyles.

tech, consumerist lifestyles.

The 27,000-odd North Korean defectors who live in the South describe having to learn about foreign concepts such as bank accounts and the Internet, and frequently talk about feeling as if they're viewed as country bumpkins.

But at the unification camp, Lee Sol-mi and Lee Ji-min, two unrelated 21-year-old defectors who are both studying for the South Korean equivalent of the GED were greeted with nothing but curiosity when they took to the stage to answer the girls' questions during the "Meeting with North Korean friends" session.

What surprised them most about South Korea? Electricity



Students participate in a Unification Leadership Camp on Wednesday in Gyeongju, South Korea.

all day long. Could they marry for love? It's possible. What about makeup? Chinese products were available. but expensive.

The girls gasped in shock at many of the answers.

Asked about the television programs they watched in North Korea, Lee Sol-mi responded that there was only one channel and all the dramas related in some way to the ruling Kim family. She cited one show called "Red Sorghum," in which people go out into the fields to contribute to agricultural production. That was a sharply different plotline from the numerous soap operas made in the South, which invariably involve a lot of relationship-related

The differences became more stark when the girls asked about their favorite foods in North Korea. On any night of the week in the South, young people can be seen huddling in groups around an extravagant delicacy called pathing-su: a mountain of shaved ice topped with soft-serve ice cream, red beans and various fruits.

But what did the defectors answer? Lee Sol-mi said she missed North Korean sweet potatoes, while Lee Ji-min talked about fake sovbean meat.

What about the famous Pyongyang cold noodle dish? Neither of the defectors, both of whom are from outlying provinces, had ever tried it, although Lee Sol-mi said they sometimes had noodles made from corn — a poor substitute — at home.

Throughout, the girls giggled and threw their arms around each other, and fixed their hair in their cellohone reflections.

Things took a more serious turn when Lee Ji-min talked about her time in a Thai prison as she made her journey from North to South Korea

Even though the defectors were speaking Korean, Lee Chan-mi, the moderator, was acting as a kind of translator throughout the session — not of language but of culture. She explained how brokers helped defectors cross the North Korean border into China, how the rations system worked — or rather, didn't work.

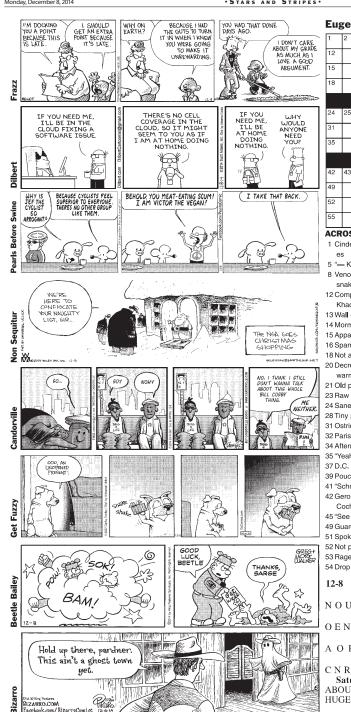
On a duer, until work.

She also sought to minimize the differences, pointing out that just a couple of decades ago, South Korea also regulated hairstyles and that Seoul indulges in its own kind of propaganda. (Speaking good of the North is still technically a crime on this half of the peninsula.)

Eating lunch—french fries and pork cutlets—after the session, the students expressed surprise about what the North Korean defectors had to say, especially when it came to hair and makeup.

"It made them feel more real," said Lee Kyung-min, 13, in a blue hoodie. "I've seen North Korean defectors on TV, but I've never met one in person."

Kwon Min-ji, also 13, added, "I had only negative thoughts about North Korea and the North Korean system before, but I like them



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CRYPTOQUIP

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CNRNGKH LBQML LKENQNLL. Saturday's Cryptoquip: LEGAL THRILLER ABOUT A PIECE OF SOFT CHEESE EATEN BY A HUGE-BILLED BIRD: "THE PELICAN BRIE."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: M equals U





PHOTOS BY DAVID GOLDMAN/AF

Above: A coal miner puts his boots on top of his locker after finishing a shift underground at the Perkins Branch coal mine in Cumberland, Kv. Left: Coal miners return on

a buggy after working a shift

Challenges ahead for Ky. coal miners

Workers in the eastern part of the state struggle to survive

By Allen G. Breed The Associated Press

HARLAN, Ky. - The rest of the house is just waking as Scottie Sizemore plops down in a rocking chair on his front porch with a cup of coffee. The sun has vet to crest the ridge above, where mist clings like clouds that couldn't quite make it over.

Sizemore is the fourth generation of his family to mine coal in Harlan County. He knows he'll probably be the last.

For more than a century, life in Central Appalachia has been largely defined by the ups and downs of the coal industry. Through all the bust years, there was always the promise of another boom

Until now.

There is a growing sense in these mountains that this downturn is different, deeper. That for a variety of reasons - economic, environmental, political - coal mining will not rebound this

State and federal initiatives are exploring everything from ecotourism and small farmer loans to regional tax incentives for job creators. Some here pray for a regulatory climate change that would breathe new life into the region's mines.

For Sizemore and his wife, Madonna, the answer is simple, if painful. They're leaving.

"I feel in my heart that there is no hope for Harlan. There's no hope for our children in the future here," Madonna Sizemore says, tears filling her eyes. "And I hate that."

'Bloody Harlan'

In the 1930s, the hollows and bottoms around here echoed with gunfire as union organizers and company "thugs" warred over who had the right to mine coal. The county earned an enduring nickname: "Bloody Harlan.

Now, miner and operator alike are struggling to survive.

The Energy Information Administration estimates that there are about 30 billion minable tons of coal left in Kentucky. Nearly a third of those "recoverable reserves" are in the eastern coalfields.

But mining it comes at great both financial and environmental.

The geological conditions in the Appalachians produced a coal that burned hotter and was lower in sulfur than mineral from other regions. But those same mountainous conditions now make it harder to get to under current regulations, and much more expensive to ship.

In late November, the spot-market price for Central Appalachian coal was \$56.10 per ton, according to the EIA. That's nearly \$45 higher than coal from the Powder River Basin out West

According to the EIA, most of what's left in eastern Kentucky 9.1 billion tons — can realistically be gotten only by surface or "strip" mining. But stricter interpretation of clean water and other regulations by the Environmental Protection Agency and the courts in recent years has all but ended the most cost-effective ways of extracting it.

Jobs just vanished

In the past five years, half of the coal jobs in eastern Kentucky have vanished.

When Steven Fields was laid off five years ago, he was making \$25.50 an hour. His last job, print-



Unemployed coal miner Steven Fields, 49, walks through an abandoned coal mine near where he grew up in Verda, Ky. Fields used to play in the abandoned mine as a child before following in his father's footsteps to become a miner.

ing T-shirts, earned \$10 an hour. Despite lungs choked with coal dust, Fields, 49, yearns to go back underground.

"It's a hard pill to swallow when vou're laving at home and vour wife's supporting you instead of you supporting your wife," Fields said, huffing and coughing as he climbs the hills above the coal camp of Verda.

His older brother went to Alabama looking for work in the mines. Fields is contemplating following him.

Working in the west

Madonna Sizemore balanced the baby on her hip as daughter Bryannah walked by with an armful of freshly laundered coveralls, their reflective strips shining, and tossed them into the back seat of the idling pickup truck.

"I've got to go," Scottie Size-more said, leaning in to kiss 10month-old Anastyn.

In September 2013, he took a job as safety specialist with Patriot Coal in the newly booming mines of western Kentucky.

For more than a century, eastern Kentucky outproduced the state's western coalfields. But in the past year, the balance has shifted to the west, where seams are shallower and thicker, but higher in sulfur.

Smokestack scrubbers allow modern power plants to burn the dirtier coal. With easy access to river barge networks, western Kentucky mines are selling their product for about \$12 less per ton than their Appalachian competitors.

The company Sizemore was working for had cut salaries 71/2 percent and was preparing to take another 7 percent. With a mortgage and five children to support, his choice was clear.

You can sit here and take the cuts," he said. "Or you can choose to move and continue making the money you're used to making.

'Promise Zone"

Between 1900 and the outbreak of World War II, Harlan County's population grew nearly eightfold, to a peak of 75,275. Today, it's around 28,000. For those who have chosen to stay behind, it has been a struggle.

Harlan County is included in one of President Barack Obama's "Promise Zones," giving the re-gion priority to access federal money to create jobs and improve educational opportunities. There is also a federal-state development initiative, SOAR — Shaping our Appalachian Region.

Many feel they can't afford to wait and see if these efforts bear

For the past year, Sizemore has shared an apartment with another transplanted Harlan Countian. If all goes well, Madonna and the children will join him soon.

His wife blinks back tears as she contemplates saying goodbye to her parents, who are elderly and sick. She hates the idea of having

to leave her beloved mountains. "It's just like a piece of the Lord's hands is here," she said, her voice breaking.

SCIENCE AND MEDICINE

Met is THAT?

Mysterious Russian space object could be return of 'satellite killer'

By TERRENCE McCoy The Washington Post

WASHINGTON

here was a time not too long ago when some of the world's brilliant rocket scientists didn't think of space as something to conquer, nor monetize, nor explore - but as a means to make war.

During the Cold War in the 1960s, they eyed outer space as a potential theater of conflict, where human-piloted space vessels would engage in gravity-free dogfights and fire missiles. The ambitions were unrealistic, but they did nonetheless give birth to a Soviet anti-satellite weaponry program simply called "Istrebitel Sputnikov"

"satellite killer.

It was thought the killer was retired. It was thought the Soviet empire's that collapse had grounded it. But which the Chinese use as now, as the Financial Times well, may be the latest first reported, chapter in the militarithere are whispers of its return out there in the blackness of space.

As news of the Virgin Galactic crash, Antares explosion and Rosetta exploration filled science pages, another space drama has quietly unfurled. In May, Russia launched a rocket to add several satellites to its existing constellation. In the process, it deployed what was first believed to be a piece of space debris but has now become a matter of great speculation.

"I have no idea what it is!" space security expert Patricia Lewis, of the think tank Chatham House, told The Washing-

and now the U.S. military, space experts and amateur sleuths have been closely tracking its movements, each of which has been deliberate and precise. The unidentified satellite — called Object 2014-28E — recently navigated toward other Russian space objects, its voyage culminating in its recent hookup with the remains of the rocket stage that originally launched it.

The satellite could be nothing. It could be space junk. It could be a search-andrescue mission or some innocuous method to clear space debris — the bane of satellite navigation. Or it could be something more. The Russian Ministry of Defense didn't immediately respond to The Washington Post's request for

comment

Every expert

satellites,

interviewed agreed

such

zation of space.

There's always confusion with these sort of things because no one knows exactly what these satellites are up

to," space expert Robert Christy, once a member of the famed Kettering Group of astronomers, told The Post.

Despite that confusion, every expert in-terviewed agreed that such satellites, which the Chinese use as well, may be the latest chapter in the militarization of space - first conceived as something akin to science fiction that has now evolved into subtler cyberwarfare, hinging on debilitating vital satellite systems

Virtually every modern technology cellphones, map services, television shows and any number of communication services - hinges on satellites. Targeting global communication services

"Imagine if you were having a Katrina episode, and all of your satellites suddenly got jammed," Lewis said. "Just imag-

Lewis said there are several explanations for the mysterious Russian satellite. Some are benign, some not. Each possible use would be experimental. One of them, she said, involves the clearance of debris

almost like a space vacuum. Many space-bound nations "are looking at how to do this," Lewis said. Or the mission could have something to do with search and rescue.

Other possibilities are substantially more bellicose. "This satellite could be used as some sort of anti-satellite weapon. Or it could be that you use this to cyber-jam the satellites to grill them and take control of them, and that way you just leave the satellite dead," Lewis said.

But both options make little sense, she said. After all, you don't need to shoot a satellite into space to "cyberjam" other satellites. Just look at the Chinese: They just hacked U.S. weather systems without launching their own satellites — and did so right here from the ground. And destroying a satellite would create so much ellites' surveillance and achieve a null goal."

So what gives? The answer may be an amalgam of all possibilities. If the satellite has the capacity to clear debris or perform some search missions, it can also be used for other purposes, Christy said.

This technology could be used in one way, which is really benign or peaceful, but it can have many other uses," said Christy, who has been monitoring the satellite since the beginning.
"If it can get up close to someone else's satellite or orbit alongside, it can go and bang and destroy the thing. If you can go

you could destroy the satellite."

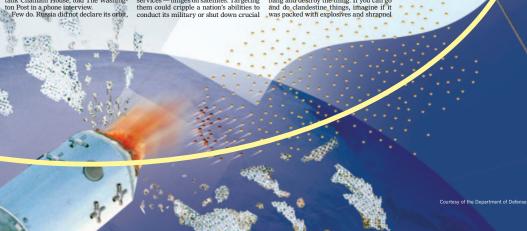
It's an idea that has been around for a while. In 1960, the Soviet Union destroyed an American U-2 spy plane, sparking an international scandal that ultimately gave life to ambitions to do the same to spy satellites. Several years later, on Nov. 1, 1963, the Soviets sent into space their first killer satellite to see if it could move with agility and even approach and destroy an enemy satellite. The mission was "in response to the militarization of space by the USA," one official Russian source said at the time, according to Russian Space Web.

The militarization of space hasn't ceased in the intervening decades, though it has morphed.

"The USSR was (once) developing in-spection and strike spacecraft," Oleg Ostapenko, Russia's commander of space forces, said in 2010, according to Popular

Mechanics. He explained that Russia would be ready for a space war. "There should be no war in space, but we are military people and should be ready. ... Trust me, we would be able to respond quickly and adequately."

And the satellite that Russians now control has shown that it can move both quickly and more than adequately.



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Yellow jackets swarm police officer's car

WINTER SPRINGS It what seemed like something out of a horror movie. a swarm of yellow jackets covered part of a patrol car of a suburban Orlando police officer.

Winter Springs police officer Dan Williams said he had parked his car in a neighborhood at the edge of a tree line with a park and several homes.

After exiting the car Thursday, he heard what he thought were raindrops on his driver's side window.

Instead, he saw a few yellow jackets. Before he knew it, they had covered the entire window.

He says they appeared to be trying to sting the window. Police officers roped off the

area overnight to keep residents from near the swarm.

Friday, the yellow jackets were removed.

Woman banned from bingo seeks state help

ALAMOGORDO - A 70-year-old New Mexico woman banned from a bingo hall is fighting to get back in the game.

Evangeline Shelland, of Alamogordo, has asked the New Mexico Attorney General's Office for help since she was banned two years ago from playing her favorite game at the Fraternal Order of Eagles club.

She said management banished her after telling her they had received letters from people accusing her of driving erratically in the parking lot. Shelland denies the accusation. The club declined to comment.

The Attorney General's Office said it doesn't have jurisdiction over the club and can't force it to allow Shelland to play.

Dealer gets 3 years for selling flooded cars

FREEHOLD — A used car dealer in New Jersey has been sentenced to three years in prison for selling vehicles damaged in Superstorm Sandy to unsuspecting customers. Jonathan Olin, 42, of Manala-

pan, admitted orchestrating a scheme in which a Motor Vehicles Commission employee created clean titles for eight vehicles that sustained flood damage. Seven of them were sold.

The former operator of D&D Auto Sales in Old Bridge also was ordered to pay full restitution to his victims

The MVC technician was sentenced to probation and community service in October

Famed mountain lion appears to be recovered

LOS ANGELES - A mountain lion living in a Los Angeles wilderness park appears to have recovered from mange and exposure to rat poison earlier this year.

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area biologist



PATTI BLAKE, (PANAMA CITY, FLA.) NEWS HERALD/AF

Funny face

Kelly Rinehart checks out her reflection in an ornament Friday during the Panama City Christmas tree lighting at McKenzie Park in Panama City, Fla.

Jeff Sikich said the lion dubbed P-22 looks healthy and has a full belly in recent photos.

The National Park Service on Thursday released images taken last month by a remotely trig-gered camera set up at the site of a freshly killed mule deer in Griffith Park. More than 1,500 photos were taken as P-22 returned to feed over four nights.

National Geographic famously photographed the cat last year with the Hollywood sign in the background. Early this year, he was markedly deteriorated when he was captured for a collar battery change. Biologists treated him for mange and poisoning and released him.

Man who killed wife in 1979 is sentenced

BUFFALO — A New York man was sentenced to 25 years to life in prison for killing his estranged wife 35 years ago by stabbing her more than 100 times.

State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman said Michael Rodriguez, 60, of Buffalo, received the maximum sentence Friday in Erie County state Supreme Court.

State police investigators brought the case to Schneiderman's office in June 2013. Officials say DNA testing of 21-year-old Patricia Scinta Rodriguez's clothing THE CENSUS

to, making him the Inngest-surviving lanus cat. The feline named Frank and Louie, who was born with two faces, two mouths, two noses and three blue eyes, died Thursday at the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University in Massachusetts. The cat's owner, Marty Stevens, said veterinarians believe the cause of death was cancer. Frank and Louie made it into the 2012 edition of Guinness World Records as the longestsurviving member of a group known as Janus cats, named for a Roman

Frank and Louie in an undated nhoto.

The age a cat born

with two faces lived

led to her husband being charged with second-degree murder.

Authorities said the mother of two was stabbed 108 times and her body was left in a cemetery in Lackawanna, near Buffalo. Her body was found the morning of Good Friday in April 1979.

Investigators began examining the case in 2009 at the request of Lackawanna police.

Drivers facing trial in crash of 'racing' buses

PITTSBURGH - Two Pittsburgh-area transit drivers have been ordered to stand trial on charges they drove



JIM Collins, Worcester (Mass.) Telegram & Gazette/AP

god with two faces. Janus cats almost never survive, and most have congenital defects.

recklessly when prosecutors say they raced their empty, off-duty buses side by side before one of them crashed over an interstate embankment

Police said Juliann Maier, 46, and Thomas Frauens, 56, were driving 65 mph in a 55 mph zone and scraped each other's buses before the Sept. 22 crash on Interstate 279.

Maier's attorney said the bus she crashed was dangerous and in disrepair and claimed the transit agency has filed the charges to cover that up

The drivers are charged with recklessly endangering other motorists and several traffic

There were no passengers on either bus, but Maier was hospitalized and continues to recover from her injuries.

Mennonite sentenced in drug-smuggling case

DENVER - In what prosecutors called a drug-smuggling conspiracy between Mennonites and a Mexican drug cartel, a man was sentenced to 15 months in prison for aiding the movement of tons of marijuana to the U.S.

Abraham Friesen-Remple was sentenced in federal court in Denver to 15 months in prison after pleading guilty to using a telephone to facilitate the distribution of marijuana. A judge said he likely would be released later in the day because of time already served. Prosecutors said he played a minor role as a driver, helping the Juarez cartel smuggle drugs in gas tanks of cars and inside farm equipment.

Mennonite Christians have historical ties to the Amish, and are radical Protestant reformers originally known as Anabaptists who adopted pacifism and fled persecution in central Europe for North America, Some conservative Mennonite communities still wear traditional dress and avoid modern technology.

From wire reports

FACES

GRAMMYS 2015

Sam Smith, Beyonce nab multiple nominations

By Mesfin Fekadu

The Associated Press

British newcomer Sam Smith and Beyonce — the most nominated female in Grammy history — have received multiple Grammy Awards nominations.

Smith is the real leader so far: He's up for key awards such as best new artist and song and record of the year for his hit "Stay With Me"

Beyonce, surprisingly, was not up for song or record of the year. Her nominations include best urban contemporary album for her fifth album as well as R&B song and R&B performance for "Drunk in Love."

As of press time, the nominees for album of the year had not been announced

For song and record of the year, Smith's "Stay With Me" will battle Taylor Swift's "Shake It Off," Meghan Trainor's "All About That Bass" and Sia "Chandelier."

Iggy Azalea's "Fancy" is nominated for record of the year, while Hozier's "Take Me to Church" is up for song of the year, a songwriter's award.

Azalea, the Australian newcomer, earned four nominations, including best rap album for "The New Classic," best pop duo/ group performance for "Fancy" and best new artist, pitting her and Smith against pop-rock trio HAIM, English band Bastille and country singer Brandy Clark.

Usher, Jack White, Miranda Lambert and Eric Church also earned four nominations each. Church and Lambert will compete for best country album, along with Clark, Dierks Bentley and Lee Ann Womack.

Sia, who also earned four nominations, had a breakthrough this year with "Chandelier" after writing songs for other singers, from Rihanna to Beyonce to Katy Perry.

Smith's five nominations include best pop solo performance and pop vocal album for his debut, "In the Lonely Hour," one of the year's top-selling albums. The big-voiced singer will battle Ed Sheeran, Miley Cyrus, Ariana Grande, Katy Perry and Coldplay in the latter category.

in the latter category. Pharrell's "Happy" and John Legend's "All of Me," tunes that peaked at No. 1 on the Billboard Hot 100 this year, were technically released before Grammy eligibility, so the singers submitted live renditions of the songs on they could be considered for awards. They didn't earn nominations in the top awards, but the hits will compete with "Stay With Me." "Shake it Off" and "All

About That Bass" for best pop solo performance.

The pop queen is also nominated for best surround sound album for "Beyonce" and music film for her "On the Run" tour with Jay Z. Beyonce has won 17 Grammys so far.

U2's "Songs of Innocence," originally released for free to iTunes users, is up for best rock album. Other nominees include





Photos by AP

Soul singer Sam Smith, left, and Beyonce, right, could be taking home lots of Grammys in February.

Beck, Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers, Ryan Adams and the Black Keys. The Grammy Awards will air live Feb. 8 from the Staples Center in Los Angeles.

Grammy nominees in top categories

Nominees announced Dec. 5 in the top categories for the 57th annual Grammy Awards:

Best pop vocal album: "Ghost Stories," Coldplay; "Bangerz," Miley Cyrus; "My Everything," Ariana Grande; "Prism," Katy Perry; "X," Ed Sheeran; "In the Lonely Hour." Sam Smith.

Best pop solo performance: "All of Me (Live)," John Legend; "Chandelier," Sia; "Stay With Me (Darkchild Version)," Sam Smith; "Shake It Off," Taylor Swift; "Happy (Live)." Pharrell.

Best country album: "Riser," Dierks Bentley; "The Outsiders," Eric Church; "12 Stories," Brandy Clark; "Platinum," Miranda Lambert; "The Way I'm Livin'," Lee Ann Womack.

Best urban contemporary album: "Sail Out," Jhene Aiko; "Beyonce," Beyonce; "X," Chris Brown; "Mali Is," Mali Music; "G I R L," Pharrell.

Best R&B album: "Islander," Bernhoft; "Lift Your Spirit," Aloe Blacc; "Love, Marriage & Divorce," Toni

Braxton and Babyface; "Black Radio 2," Robert Glasper Experiment; "Give the People What They Want," Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings.

Best rap album: "The New Classic," Iggy Azalea; "Because the Internet," Childish Gambino; "Nobody's Smiling," Common; "The Marshall Mathers LP2," Eminem; "Oxymoron," Schoolboy Q; "Blacc Hollywood," Wiz Khalifa.

Best rock album: "Ryan Adams," Ryan Adams; "Morning Phase," Beck; "Turn Blue," the Black Keys; "Magnetic Eye," Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers; "Songs of Innocence," U2.

Best alternative music album: "This Is All Yours," Alt-J; "Reflektor," Arcade Fire; "Melophobia," Cage the Elephant; "St. Vincent," St. Vincent; "Lazaretto," Jack White.

Online: grammy.com

From The Associated Press

President Obama to be one of the last guests on 'The Colbert Report'

From wire reports

Stephen Colbert has scored a fairly major guest for one of the final episodes of "The Colbert Report": President Barack Obama will appear on the show on Monday.

Colbert will be in Washington to tape a special episode he's calling "Stephen Colbert Presents: Mr. Colbert Goes to Washington D.C. Ya Later, Legislator; Partisan is Such Sweet Sorrow: A Colbert Victory Lap."

The show is being filmed at George Washington University, is open to students only and yes, it's already sold out. Colbert urged everyone to reserve a seat in their own living rooms, now.
"Nation, I cannot overstate how huge

this is," Colbert said when he made the announcement on the Dec. 4 show. "The size of the hugeness? Large. I am so honored to be sitting down with the man who sat down with Bill O'Reilly."

This will be Óbama's third visit to the show; he last appeared in 2009. "The Colbert Report" wraps up for good on Dec. 18.

Wahlberg seeks pardon

Actor Mark Wahlberg is asking Massachusetts for a pardon for assaults he committed in 1988 when he was a troubled teenager in Boston, saying he has dedicated himself to becoming a better person in



Host Stephen Colbert is winding up his tenure on "The Colbert Report" with a special guest.

his adult years so he can be a role model to his children and others.

The former rapper known as Marky Mark and a star of movies including "The Departed" and "The Gambler," set to open in theaters Dec. 19, filed a pardon application with state officials Nov. 26. New England Cable News first reported on the application Dec. 4.

In 1988, when Wahlberg was 16, he hit a man in the head with a wooden stick while trying to steal two cases of alcohol in front of a convenience store in the Dorchester section of Boston, the application says. He

punched another man in the face while trying to avoid police, the document says. Wahlberg says in the application that he was high on marijuana and narcotics at the time, and police caught him with a small amount of pot. He also apologized for shi is actions. He was convicted as an adult of assault and other charges, and he was sentenced to three months in jail. He said he was released after serving about 45 days.

Wahlberg, 43, says in the application that he turned his life around and became a successful music artist, actor and film and television producer. He also notes he has raised millions of dollars for charity and donated his time and efforts for philanthropic causes.

To get a pardon, the Massachusetts Parole Board would have to review Wahlberg's case and make a recommendation to the governor, who has the ultimate authority to grant pardons. Calls to the board's offices went unanswered Dec. 4.

Cosby seeks to dismiss lawsuit

A woman suing Bill Cosby for sexual battery attempted to sell a story about the comedian to a tabloid a decade ago and tried to extort money in exchange for her silence, Cosby's attorney said in a court filing Dec. 4.

Attorney Martin Singer wrote in the filing that the lawsuit by Judy Huth and her attorney followed a failed attempt to extort \$250,000 from Cosby. In the filing, Cosby seeks monetary damages from Huth and her attorney. The filing comes two days after Huth sued, claiming the comedian forced her to perform a sex act in 1974 when she was 15. The incident occurred in a bedroom of the Playboy Mansion after Cosby gave Huth and a 16-year-old friend alcohol, according to her lawsuit.

The filings state that Singer and Huth's actionry, Marc S. Strecker, had several conversations about the allegations in the weeks before the lawsuit was filed. Strecker first demanded \$100,000, flether aised the demand to \$250,000 in order to keep from filing a lawsuit on Huth's behalf, Singer wrote.

Strecker did not return phone messages seeking comment Dec. 4.

Other news

■ Benedict Cumberbatch will star in "Doctor Strange" as the neurosurgeon-turned-superhero, Marvel announced Dec. 4

■ "Peter Pan Live" didn't exactly fly for NBC. The Nielsen company said the musical production reached 9.1 million viewers on Dec. 4, or less than half of what "The Sound of Music" production did last year. The live "Peter Pan" production starred Allison Williams in the title role with Christopher Walken as Captain Hook.

第3種郵便物設可 · STARS AND STRIPES · Monday, December 8, 2014

BUSINESS/WEATHER

US seeing best job growth since 1999

By Christopher S. Rugaber The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - A resurgence in U.S. hiring accelerated in November and put 2014 on track to be the healthiest year for job growth since 1999.

The gain of a robust 321,000 jobs - the most in nearly three years - put further distance between a strengthening American economy and struggling nations throughout the developed world.

The job market still isn't yet fully healthy. But its steady improvement raises the likelihood that the Federal Reserve will start raising interest rates from

record lows by mid-2015.

The unemployment rate remained at a six-year low of 5.8 percent, the Labor Department said Friday.

"These were boom-like numbers," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics They indicate that the U.S. economy is on very solid ground.

Friday's report also raised

hopes that Americans' pay might finally be starting to increase after barely budging since the Great Recession began seven vears ago. The average hourly wage rose 9 cents to \$24.66, the biggest gain in 17 months.

Fed Chair Janet Yellen has cited stagnant wages as a key reason to keen rates low Higher wages could lead to higher prices and the Fed might feel compelled to raise rates to limit inflation.

Still, during the past 12 months, hourly pay has risen just 2.1 per-cent, barely above the 1.7 percent inflation rate. And economists note that inflation remains below the Fed's 2 percent target and will likely stay tame because of lower energy prices. That might give the Fed some leeway to wait.

The Fed has kept its benchmark rate near zero for six years to encourage borrowing and spending.

Investors welcomed Friday's news. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 58 points to close at 17,958. Earlier in the day, the

Dow came within 9 points of crossing the 18,000 mark for the first time. The yield on the 10year Treasury note rose to 2.31 percent, from 2.25 percent, a sign that investors foresee a Fed rate increase relatively soon.

So far this year, the economy has gained 2.65 million jobs. With a month to go. 2014 is already the best year for hiring in 15 years.

That is partly a reflection of the anemic pace of job growth for much of the recovery. Only this year, five years after the re-cession officially ended, have job gains neared levels historically associated with a strong economy. In the 1980s and 1990s, employers regularly added more than 3 million jobs per year.

Even now, signs of weakness remain. There are 6.9 million people with part-time jobs who would prefer full-time work - up from 4.1 million before the

recession. And millions have given up looking for work. That has been a factor in the declining unem-

seeking jobs, they're no longer counted as unemployed.

A broader measure of unemployment, which includes involuntary part-time workers and people who given up looking, stands at 11.4 percent.

In addition, the number of unemployed people who have been out of work for more than six months is 2.8 million, more than double its pre-recession level.

"At this rate, we won't return to pre-recession labor market health until October 2016 — nearly nine years since the recession began,' said Elise Gould, an economist at the liberal Economic Policy Institute

Many Americans remain anxious about the economy. In a Gal-lup poll last month, 30 percent said the economy was "poor," compared with 24 percent who said it was "good" or "excellent." Americans who earn above \$90,000 had a much brighter outlook than those who earn less.

Milit Euro costs (Dec. 8) .\$1.2674 Dollar buys (Dec. 8).... British pound (Dec. 8). . \$1.61 Japanese yen (Dec. 8)... South Korean won (Dec Commercial rates Bahrain (Dinar)..... British pound Canada (Dollar) . China (Yuan) Denmark (Krone) .. Egypt (Pound)...... .7.7511 248.86248.863.9834121.450.29227.133044.533.383.75341,121.090.9786 Philippines (Peso).... Poland (Zloty)...... Saudi Arabia (Riyal) Singapore (Dollar)... South Korea (Won) ... Switzerland (Franc). Thailand (Baht)

EXCHANGE RATES

which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.) INTEREST RATES Prime rate Federal funds market rate 3-month bill

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cneck with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencie to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dellars to pound.

/FATHER OUTLOO

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Abilene, Tex	65	42	PCldv	Chevenne	51	27	PCIdv	Fresno	67	47	Cldv	Lubbock	62	39	PCldv	Portland, Maine	25	23	PCldv	Sioux Falls	37	16	PCIdv
Akron, Ohio	44	32	Cldv	Chicago	39	27	Snow	Goodland	56	26	Clr	Macon	51	33	Cldv	Portland, Ore.	51	50	Cldv	South Bend	38	32	Snow
Albany, N.Y.	30	27	Cĺr	Cincinnati	48	34	Cldy	Grand Junction	50	26	PCldy	Madison	37	23	Snow	Providence	36	34	Cldy	Spokane	40	35	Cldv
Albuquerque	57	34	PCldv	Cleveland	44	35	Cldv	Grand Rapids	38	31	Snow	Medford	58	46	Cldv	Pueblo	55	26	Clr	Springfield.III	48	27	Cldv
Allentown, Pa.	33	30	Cldv	Colorado Springs	55	30	Clr	Great Falls	45	34	PCldv	Memphis	57	38	PCldv	Raleigh-Durham	43	35	Cldv	Springfield,Mo	52	30	Cldv
Amarillo	60	34	Clr	Columbia,S.C.	46	35	Cldy	Green Bay	37	24	Snow	Miami Beach	78	61	PCldy	Rapid City	48	26	Clr	Syracuse	33	29	Cldv
Anchorage	35	31	Cldy	Columbus,Ga.	52	35	Cldy	Greensboro, N.C.	41	32	Cldy	Midland-Odessa	65	40	Clr	Reno	55	34	Cldy	Tallahassee	56	38	Cldv
Asheville	43	32	Cldy	Columbus,Ohio	46	35	Cldy	Harrisburg	36	32	Cldy	Milwaukee	39	26	Rain	Richmond	41	37	Cldy	Tampa	70	55	Cldv
Atlanta	49	34	Cldy	Concord, N.H.	25	21	PCldy	Hartford Spgfld	32	30	Cldy	Mpls-St Paul	30	16	Cldy	Roanoke	39	29	Cldy	Toledo	42	33	Cldv
Atlantic City	45	41	Cldy	Corpus Christi	66	51	Cldy	Helena	38	22	PCldy	Missoula	36	25	Cldy	Rochester	39	33	Cldy	Topeka	52	27	Clr
Austin	65	43	Clr	Dallas-Ft Worth	64	44	Clr	Honolulu	82	66	PCldy	Mobile	63	40	PCldy	Rockford	39	24	Cldy	Tucson	75	49	PCldv
Baltimore	38	33	Cldy	Dayton	45	33	Cldy	Houston	65	46	Clr	Montgomery	55	35	Cldy	Sacramento	64	53	Cldy	Tulsa	58	35	PCldy
Baton Rouge	65	43	PCldy	Daytona Beach	69	52	Cldy	Huntsville	54	36	PCIdy	Nashville	54	37	Cldy	St Louis	52	31	Cldy	Tupelo	57	38	PCldv
Billings	45	28	PCldy	Denver	55	29	Clr	Indianapolis	44	31	Cldy	New Orleans	65	45	PCldy	St Petersburg	69	58	Cldy	Waco	63	40	Clr
Birmingham	53	37	Cldy	Des Moines	42	22	PCldy	Jackson, Miss.	62	38	PCldy	New York City	36	33	Cldy	St Thomas	86	79	Clr	Washington	38	34	Cldv
Bismarck	28	9	PCldy	Detroit	43	32	Cldy	Jacksonville	61	43	PCldy	Newark	36	33	Cldy	Salem,Ore.	55	51	Cldy	W. Palm Beach	77	61	Cldv
Boise	49	33	Cldy	Duluth	28	13	Cldy	Juneau	42	36	Rain	Norfolk,Va.	50	45	Cldy	Salt Lake City	55	34	PCIdy	Wichita	58	32	Clr
Boston	35	33	Cldy	El Paso	66	48	PCldy	Kansas City	50	28	Clr	North Platte	53	17	Clr	San Angelo	65	42	PCldy	Wichita Falls	63	40	Clr
Bridgeport	35	33	PCldy	Elkins	44	30	Cldy	Key West	76	66	PCldy	Oklahoma City	60	38	Clr	San Antonio	66	47	PCldy	Wilkes-Barre	33	30	Cldv
Brownsville	69	55	Cldy	Erie	42	34	Cldy	Knoxville	50	35	Cldy	Omaha	46	24	PCldy	San Diego	71	56	PCldy	Wilmington,Del.	37	34	Cldy
Buffalo	39	34	Cldy	Eugene	55	50	Cldy	Lake Charles	65	43	Clr	Orlando	72	52	Cldy	San Francisco	65	57	Rain	Yakima	41	34	Cldy
Burlington,Vt.	25	22	Cldy	Evansville	52	34	Cldy	Lansing	39	30	Snow	Paducah	53	33	Cldy	San Jose	67	50	Cldy	Youngstown	43	30	Cldy
Caribou,Maine	10	6	Clr	Fairbanks	9	-3	Clr	Las Vegas	68	50	PCldy	Pendleton	43	38	Cldy	Santa Fe	54	27	PCIdy	TourigStown	43	30	City
Casper	4/	26	Clr	Fargo	25		Cldy	Lexington	51	37	Cldy	Peoria	44	26	Cldy	St Ste Marie	32	29	Snow				
Charleston, S.C.	49	39	Cldy	Flagstaff	53	27	PCldy	Lincoln	51	22	Clr	Philadelphia	38	34	Cldy	Savannah	51	38	Cldy	National tempe Hi: Sat., 95, Punta			emes
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Charlotte, N.C.	44	34	Cldy	Fort Smith	59	36	PCldy	Los Angeles	75	57	Clr	Pittsburgh	42	33	Cldy	Shreveport	60	40	Clr	Lo: Sat., -12, Emba	arras	s, Mini	1.

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Never take our freedoms for granted

By Kevin Cooper

The Natchez (Miss.) Democrat

eventy-three years ago, the world changed with a deadly act of war. Japanese fighter planes waged a highly successful surprise attack on the U.S. Navy base at Pearl Harbor near Honolulu just before 8 a.m., Dec. 7, 1941.

The hundreds of planes in the sky wreaked havoc on the vessels and their crews. The two-hour battle was devastating to the U.S. Navy, with 20 vessels destroyed and more than 2,000 soldiers and sailors killed; another 1,000 were wounded.

Pearl Harbor became not a place but an event, a seminal event that nudged the United States into what we now know as

Imagining the feeling of utter helplessness those on the ground felt during and just after the attack is impossible for us today. That feeling, that real, connectedto-history feeling has kept generations of Americans cognizant of the need to always

be ready.
Unfortunately, the date passes now without much mention. The challenge isn't apathy as much as attrition. A few years ago dozens and dozens of Pearl Harbor survivors dotted the American landscape. Today, only a handful survive, most others

taken by old age.

Like Civil War history that was still somewhat fresh to my great-grandfather, having spoken to relatives who were in-volved, Pearl Harbor is rapidly becoming that for my generation and obviously those who follow it.

For those Americans who lived through World War II, Pearl Harbor represented the dirtiest deed most had ever known. A surprise attack on U.S. soil wasn't something we'd had to think about much prior to Dec. 7, 1941.

In fact, many of us had forgotten much about it until another fateful day in which our country was tested came a few years ago - Sept. 11, 2001.

Equally as surprising and more deadly, the terrorist attacks also caused America to stumble, briefly, before regaining our balance and resolve. Both unprovoked attacks galvanized

the public in the days, weeks and months In 1941, the world truly did change for

most Americans, as the nation geared up to create a war machine that eventually changed not only America but the entire

On 9/11, the changes were far less dramatic. Aside from a momentary surge of patriotism, for the most part our lives

military or had a loved one who was.

Aside from the shock of 9/11, we're mostly insulated from the war that has waged since. Just like Pearl Harbor, 9/11 prompted America into war, too, though the war on terrorism has been much less protracted and much more focused. Because it's a war that doesn't affect

many of us directly, we tend to simply ignore it, just like we do Pearl Harbor's anniversary and just like we do all of the milestones of the American Civil War. The facts become fuzzy, the deeper meaning

Shame on all of us who take our freedoms and the 24/7 watch the men and women of our military provide for granted.

From a pure military perspective, Pearl Harbor was a horrible defeat for America But the day was a wake-up call that led America to stand up and lead throughout the war. The defeat helped ultimately make America a global powerhouse.

Even though the men who were physically there at Pearl Harbor are almost all gone, we must not forget the amazing bravery they showed in the face of such a sayage surprise attack.

Kevin Cooper is publisher of The Natchez

Today's CIA critics once urged the agency to do anything possible to fight al-Qaida

By Jose A. Rodriguez Jr.

he men and women of my former organization, the CIA, are accustomed to frequent and sudden reversals of direction from their political leaders. But the latest twists and turns are especially dramatic.

In one ear they hear the public, the media and members of Congress raising alarms about the terrorist threat from the Islamic State: Do something! Do it now! Why didn't you do something sooner? Politicians from both sides of the aisle are saying that the militant group is an enormous challenge and must be prevented from bringing its brutality to America's shores. The president assures us that the United States will "degrade and ultimately destroy" these terrorists, while the vice president doubles down and says we will follow the Islamic State to "the gates of hell."

But shouting in CIA officers' other ear are people such as Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., regarding the 500-page summary of the Senate Intelligence Committee's report on the agency's interrogation efforts, which is expected to be released this week. The report's leaked conclusion, which has been reported on widely, that the interrogation program brought no intelligence value is an egregious falsehood; it's a dishonest attempt to rewrite history. I'm bemused that the Senate could devote so many resources to studying the interrogation program and yet never once speak to any of the key people involved in it, including the guy who ran it (that would be me).

According to news accounts of the report, Feinstein and her supporters will say that the CIA violated American principles and hid the ugly truth from Congress, the White House and the public. When the report comes out, I expect that few of the critics who will echo Feinstein's charges will have read it - and far fewer will read or understand the minority response and the CIA's rebuttal.

The interrogation program was authorized by the highest levels of the U.S. government, judged legal by the Justice Department and proved effective by any reasonable standard. The leaders of the Senate and House Intelligence Committees and of both parties in Congress were briefed on the program more than 40 times between 2002 and 2009. But Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., tried to deny that she was told in 2002 that detainees had been waterboarded. That is simply not true. I was among those who briefed her.

There's great hypocrisy in politicians' criticism of the CIA's interrogation program. In the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001. attacks, lawmakers urged us to do everything possible to prevent another attack on our soil. Members of Congress and the administration were nearly unanimous in their desire that the CIA do all that it could to debilitate and destroy al-Qaida. The CIA got the necessary approvals to do so and kept Congress briefed throughout. But as our successes grew, some lawmakers' recollections shrank in regard to the sunport they once offered. Here are a couple of reminders

On May 26, 2002, Feinstein was quoted in The New York Times saying that the attacks of 9/11 were a real awakening and that it would no longer be "business as usual." The attacks, she said, let us know "that the threat is profound" and "that we have to do some things that historically we have not wanted to do to protect ourselves.

After extraordinary CIA efforts, aided by information obtained through the enhanced-interrogation program, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the self-proclaimed architect of the 9/11 attacks, was captured in Pakistan. Shortly afterward, Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va., then the ranking Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee, appeared on CNN's "Late Edition" on March 2, 2003. Rockefeller, who had been extensively briefed about the CIA's efforts, told Wolf Blitzer that "happily, we don't know where [KSM] is," adding: "He's in safekeeping, under American protection. He'll be grilled by us. I'm sure we'll be proper with him, but I'm sure we'll be very, very tough with him."

When Blitzer asked about how Mohammed would be interrogated, Rockefeller assured him that "there are presidential memorandums that prescribe and allow certain measures to be taken, but we have to be careful." Then he added: "On the other hand, he does have the information. Getting that information will save American lives. We have no business not getting that information.'

And that's not all. Blitzer asked if the United States should turn over Mohammed to a friendly country with no restrictions against torture. Rockefeller, laughing, said he wouldn't rule it out: "I wouldn't take anything off the table where he is concerned. because this is the man who has killed hundreds and hundreds of Americans over the last 10 years."

If Feinstein, Rockefeller and other politicians were saying such things in print and on national TV, imagine what they were saying to us in private. We did what we were asked to do, we did what we were assured was legal, and we know our actions were effective. Our reward, a decade later. is to hear some of these same politicians expressing outrage for what was done and, even worse, mischaracterizing the actions taken and understating the successes achieved.

I'm confident that my former CIA colleagues who are still on the job will do what is necessary to protect the nation from new Islamic State and continuing al-Qaida threats. But in the back of their minds will be the nagging thought that, as they carry out legal, authorized and necessary actions, they may be only a few years away from being criticized and second-guessed by the people who today are urging them onward to the "gates of hell."

Jose A. Rodriguez is a 31-year veteran of the Jose A. Routingez is a stylear veterant of the CIA. He is the author of "Hard Measures: How Aggressive CIA Actions After 9/11 Saved American Lives." This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons







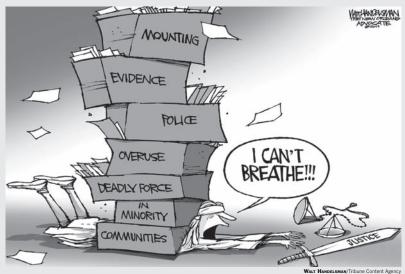
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Green Bay at Buffalo
Green Bay at Buffalo
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Pro soccer

MLS playoffs

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New England 4, Columbus 2
New England 4, Columbus 2
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New York 2, D.C. United 0
L.C. United 10
L.C. United

es on away goals CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

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New England 2, New York 1
New York 2, New England 2
Western Conference
LA Galaxy 2, Seattle 2
LA Galaxy 1, Seattle 0

LA Galaxy 2, Seattle 2
LA Galaxy 1, Seattle 0
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Saturday's women's scores
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Gettysburg 53, Washington 75, Fresnos 51, 64
Gettysburg 53, Washington 75, Fresnos 51, 64
Gettysburg 53, Washington 75, 64
Gettysburg 54, 6

Rowan 77, New Jersey City 61 UMass 71, American U. 61 West Virginia 83, Coppin St. 43 Yale 66, Boston U. 59 SOUTH Anderson (SC) 64, Newberry 59

Bryan 69, Milligan 55 Campbellsville 69, Cumberland (Tenn.) 66, 20T

, 20T
Chowan 89, Clayton St. 73
Claffin 71, Fayetteville St. 67
Clemson 76, Tennessee Tech 61
Cumberlands 61, Midway 57
E. Kentucky 63, Marshall 58
E. Mennonite 81, Ferrum 65
ETSU 88, Alabama A&M 64
Emmanuel (Ga.) 63, Mount Olive 56, OT
Erskine 78, Barton 66 FAU 111, Webber 76 FIU 66, UCF 57 FAIL dt. Uvechner /s Freed-Hardman 85, Columbia (Mo.) 78 Indiana: Southeast 89, Alice Lloyd 78 Let 74, Whint (Freen) 56 Memphis 62, Cent. Michigan 61 Mercer 54, Georgia Southern 61. North Florida 54, Tennessee St. 53 Rhodes 81, Centenary 42 Stetson 101, Warner 40 Tenn. Kemple 78, Kentucky Christian 82 Tenn. Weelsyan 65, St. Andrews 39 Tenn. Weelsyan 65, St. Andrews 39 Tenna Mercer 101, Westmirster (Mo.)

Tusculum 72, Queens (NC) 58 Union (Ky.) 92, Columbia (SC) 72 Virginia 100, Delaware St. 62 Virginia Tech 74, Longwood 42 W. Carolina 63, SC-Upstate 59, OT W. Kentucky 93, Alabama St. 54 MIDWEST Ball St. 75, Oakland 50 Benedictine (III.) 74, Concordia (Wis.)

Bethel (Min.) 58, St. Olaf 35 Bradley 76, Missouri 64 Calvin 84, Albion 57 Carleton 59, Macalester 45 Carroll (Wis., 73, Monmouth (III.) 57 Concordia (St.P) 78, Augustana (SD) 77 Davenport 73, Cornerstone 42 Doane 79, Mount Marry 73 Frienword 81, Concordia (III.) 58 uoane 1/3, Mount Marty 73
East Carolina 76, Ohio 88
Edgewood 81, Concordia, Glub 58
Edgewood 81, Concordia, Glub 58
Edgewood 81, Concordia, Glub 58
Edgewood 81, Concordia, Glub 59
Edgewood 81, Concordia, Glub 61
Edgewood 81, Contordia, Glub 61
Edgewood 8

Milwaukee Engineering 52, Alverno 42 Minn. Duluth 88, Bemidji St. 67 Minn. St. (Moorhead) 87, Mary 75 Missouri St. 75, SIV-Edwardsville 69 North Central (Minn.) 67, Trinity Bible

Missouri St. 75, SUI-Edwardsville 69
North Dakota 90, N. Dakota St. 87, OT
Northern St. (SD) 61, Minot St. 87, OT
Northern St. (SD) 61, Minot St. 64, 49
Siena Heights 90, Concordia (Mich.) 39
Siena Heights 90, Concordia (Mich.) 39
Sioux Falls 82, Winnon 81, 65
South Dakota 86, Cal St. Fullerton 60
South Dakota 86, Cal St. Fullerton 18
South St. Mary's (Minn) 64, Augsburg 37
St. Morbert S8, Grinnell 38
UConn 76, Notre Dame 58
UConn 76, Notre Dame 58
UConn 76, Notre Dame 58
Wis. Lutheran 63, Aurora 58
Wis. Lutheran 63, Aurora 58
Wis. Lutheran 63, Aurora 58
Wis. Palateville 90, Wis. Whitewater 64
Wis. Palateville 90, Wis. Whitewater 84
Wis. Palateville 90, Wis. Whitewater 84
Nuis. Palateville 39, Wis. Auropetic 64
Usiconsin 89, Marquette 64
Usiconsin 89, Marquette 64
Usiconsin 89, Marquette 64
Usibook Christian 76, McMurry 45
Southwater 18
Southwa

's 54 Tulane 74, UALR 58 FAR WEST Arizona St. 77, SMU 42 BYU 69, Colorado St. 58 CS Bakersfield 66, UC Riverside 65 CS Northridge 74, Pepperdine 48 Denver 74, UMKC 66 Denver 74, UNIXC 66
Montana St. 73, Wyoming 52
Oregon 72, Navy 64
Utah 62, UNIX 49
Utah 62, UNIX 49
Utah 62, UNIX 49
Utah 62, UNIX 49
Brown Classic
First Round
Brown Glassic
First Round
Brown 68, Sacred Heart 56
St. Bonaverture 43, Drenel 32

Deals

Saturday's transactions

BASEBALL
American League
LOS ANGELES ANGELS — Agreed to
terms with LHP Edgar Ibarra on a minor
league contract.
BASKETBALL

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
ATLANTA HAWKS — Assigned F Mike
Muscala to Fort Wayne (NBADL), Recalled
F-C Adreian Payne from Fort Wayne.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
BALTIMORE RAVENS — Signed Te Phil-

BALTIMORE MAYENS — Signed TE Philip Supernaw from the practice squad.

DENVER BRONCOS — Signed PK Brandon McManus to the practice squad.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Placed RB JarMINNESOTA VIKINGS

itice squad.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS — Activated
DL Sealver Siliga from injured reserve.

OAKLAND RAIDERS — Placed S Jonathan Dowling on injured reserve. Signed
TE Scott Simonson from the practice squad.
WASHINGTON REDSKINS — Placed CB

WASHINGTON REDSKINS — Placed CB Chase Minnifield on injured reserve. Re-leased WR Aldrick Robinson. Signed LB Gabe Miller and DB Kenny Okoro from the practice squad. HOCKEY National HoCkey League ANAHEM DUCKS — Reassigned D Mat Clark to Norfolk (AHL). Recalled F Rick-ard Palvall from Norfolk

Clark to Norrole (ARL). Revailed 1 No.
ard Rakell from Norrole.

COLORADO AVALANCHE — Assigned
F Garrett Meurs from Lake Erie (AHL) to
Fort Wayne (ECHL).

NASHVILLE PREDATORS — Recalled D

NASHVILLE PREDATORS — Recalled D nathan Diaby from Cincinnati (ECHL) Milwaukee (AHL). NEW YORK RANGERS — Reassigned Josh Nicholls from Hartford (AHL) to

F Josh Nicholls from Hartford (AHL) to Greenville (ECHL). WASHINGTON CAPITALS — Assigned F Caleb Herbert from Hershey (AHL) to South Carolina (ECHL). COLLEGE GEORGIA TECH — Agreed to terms with football coach Paul Johnson on a four-year contract extension through 2020.

Golf

Hero World Challenge

Hero Yvuru Saurday
At Isleworth Golf and Country Club
Windermere, Fla.
Purse: \$3.5 million
Yardage: 7,354; Parr 72
Third Round
77-665-5-203
77-6665-203

Thin Jordan Spieth Keegan Bradley Henrik Stenson Patrick Reed Justin Rose Just 66-67-63-196 -20 72-66-65-203 -13 67-68-68-203 -13 67-68-68-203 73-63-69-205 72-64-70-206 71-67-70-208 68-73-68-209 69-70-70-209 67-70-72-209 69-68-72-209 67-71-72-210 73-72-67-212 68-73-71-212 70-68-74-212 Chris Kirk Jimmy Walker Hunter Mahan Steve Stricker Tiger Woods 68-69-75-212 71-71-71-213 67-73-74-214 77-70-69-216

Nedbank Challenge

Saturday
At Gary Player Country Club
Sun City, South Africa
Purse: \$6.5 million
Yardage: 7,831; Par: 72
Third Round

Luke Donald, England Danny Willett, England Ross Fisher, England 71-63-69-203 71-68-65-204 66-70-70-206 Ross Flather, England
Marcel Sien, Gesmalland
Marcel Sien, Gesmalland
Marcel Sien, Gesmalland
Sien, State State State
Marcel Sien, Gesmalland
Marcel S

Skiing

World Cup

world Cup
Women's downhill
Saturday
Lindsey Vonn, U.S., 1:50.48.
2. Stacey Cook, U.S., 1:50.97.
3. Julia Mancuso, U.S., 1:51.05.
4. Larisa Yurkiw, Canada, 1:51.22.
5. Viktoria Rebensburg, Germany, 1:51.21.

51.24.
6. Laurenne Ross, U.S., 1:51.29.
World Cup Downhill Standings
(After two of 10 races)
1. Lindsey Vonn, U.S., 132 points.
2. Tina Maze, Slovenia, 132. Ina Maze, Slovenia, 132.
 Stacey Cook, United States, 109.
 Anna Fenninger, Austria, 109.
 Julia Mancuso, United States, 96.
 Laurenne Ross, United States, 90.

College hockey

Saturday's scores

Mercyhurst 6, Army 3 Bentley 4, Air Force 1 Boston College 4, New Hampshire 2 Brown 4, RPI 2 Assumption 4, W. New England 3 Utica 5, Curry 1 American International 4, Canisius 4, Denver 3, Cornell 1 Mass.-Lowell 3, Maine 2, OT Boston U. 4, Merrimack 2 Holy Cross 4, Niagara 2 Harvard 5, Quinnipiac 2 Dartmouth 4, Princeton 2 Dartmouth 4, Princeton 2 Northeastern 2, Providence 1 Robert Morris 8, Sacred Heart 4 Clarkson 2, St. Lawrence 1 Notre Dame 4, UMass 0 Union (NY) 3, Yale

MIDWEST Nebraska-Omaha 5, Miami (Ohio) 2 Minnesota 3, Michigan St. 3, OT Lake Forest 3, St. Scholastica 1 Minnesota-Duluth 7, Colorado College Minn St (Mankato) 5 Alaska 2

North Dakota 3, Lake Superior St. 1 Bowling Green 5, N. Michigan 0 Penn St. 4, Wisconsin 2

HIGH SCHOOL: DODDS EUROPE

NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE WEEKEND

Lower-division teams find success vs. D-I

DODDS-Europe's divisional realignment has been a major topic of conversation in recent months. But the opening weekend of the basketball season proved that divisions aren't everything.

A pair of lower-division powers opened their respective hoops campaigns with impressive wins over regional Division I opponents. The defending Division II champion Black Forest Academy girls team swept Friday and Saturday games from Patch, while the Division III Sigonella boys squad split a doubleheader with Naples.

BFA deployed the lockdown defense that fueled last year's title run to continued great effect against the Panthers. last year's Division I Furopean runnerup. The Falcons held Patch to an average of just six points per quarter in 46-27 and 31-21 victories, and limited the Panthers to a four-point secondhalf output on Saturday. Frontcourt duo Emily Campbell and Katie Greathouse provided the bulk of the offense. with Campbell scoring a combined 20 points and Greathouse contributing a Sigonella sophomore Chris Moore,

meanwhile, exploded for a combined 56 points in the Friday-Saturday showdowns with the Wildcats. Moore fueled a stunning comeback from a late eightpoint deficit Saturday, tying the score with a three-pointer with about 90 seconds to play, putting the Jaguars ahead late with a driving layup and free throw and answering Naples' go-ahead shot with a game-winning three-pointer in the final seconds of a 46-44 Sigonella victory AFNORTH: Lion grappler Anthony



Doerfer claimed first place at 113 pounds in a season-opening meet at Brussels on Saturday. Doerfer ninned his opponent in one minute or less in all three of his

matches. Alconbury:



manship program continued its steady progress with a strong showing Saturday. Alconbury finished third in the six-team competition with 1,193 points.



weekend. But they'll get a rare taste of non-Italian competition next month when they converge with Ansbach and Hohenfels at Aviano.



ship team opened its season Saturday by edging old rivals Vilseck and Hohenfels in a hard-fought fiveteam meet. Anshach.

led by a 292-point effort by individual winner Ryan Roberts, scored 1,398 points to outpace Vilseck's 1,385-point total and Hohenfels' 1,371 points.

Aviano: The Saints couldn't match Naples in the team points race Saturday, but three of their wrestlers claimed



JASON DUHR/Stars and Stripes

Aviano's Samir Safford attempts to gain control over Vicenza's Taylor Anderson on Saturday during a wrestling meet at Vicenza, Italy. Safford pinned Anderson in 5 minutes and 4 seconds.



weight-class victories Alex Vanmarter (145 pounds), Manny Gamboa (152) and Joseph Rivera (285) all took first



Baumholder: The Bucs were shuffled back from Division II to Division III for this basketball season, and they'll quickly learn a lot about their chances.

Baumholder hosts defending Division III boys and girls hoops champion Brussels on Friday and Saturday.



effort only strengthened their status as a Division II title contender. The wellbalanced lineup of Saoirse Matthews, Alexa Landenburger and Elise Rasmussen brings scoring, defense and experience to the cause

Brussels: The Brigands took opening weekend off, but



they'll still shove three boys and girls basketball doubleheaders in before the holiday break. Brussels takes

on Baumholder this weekend and faces crosstown rival International School of Brussels on Dec. 16

Hohenfels: Tiger shooter Katherine Gamble aimed for an individual marks-



291 total points fell one short of an overall win, her score of 95 points from standing position was the

class of the meet. Kaiserslautern: The Raiders' rear-



ranged basketball program yielded some early success this weekend. The girls team, coached by former Bitburg and Ramstein coach Lin Hairstone, and the

boys team, now helmed by former girls coach Corey Sullivan, each posted impressive doubleheader sweeps at Division I rival VIIseck.



have a lot of returning girls basketball play ers, but the ones they do have are pretty good. Adrianna Ruffin posted 19 points. seven rebounds and seven steals on

Friday and 20 points and 13 rebounds Saturday in a season-opening sweep of Alconbury.

Marymount: The Royal basketball



teams were idle on opening weekend. They'll pay a visit to Division Lrival Vicenza next weekend in their only games before the

Menwith Hill: The DODDS-Europe portion of the Mustangs' final season



with Hill is slated to close at the end of the school year. Naples: Lead guard Keylee Soto poured in a total of 27 points Friday and

Men-

Saturday to help the Wildcats dodge upsetminded Sigonella. Soto added a combined nine assists as Naples earned

narrow 40-35 and 38-33 wins Patch: The Panthers took their first step towards an-



other DODDS-Europe marksmanship title Saturday with a convincing team victory in a six-school field. Maggie Ehmann posted the event's top

score from all three positions, including a tie with teammate Meaghan Ambelang for high score from prone position, in a 293-point effort for the individual win. Ramstein: Royal forward Jesse



Hohenfels. The senior posted two straight double-doubles with 18 points and 16 rebounds Friday and and 26 points and 12 rebounds Saturday.

SHAPE: After opening their basketball schedule at non-DODDS opponent St. John's last weekend, the Spartans will wrap up their pre-holiday slate with



another road date next weekend. SHAPE. moved to Division I in this fall's realignment, will visit new divisional rival Kaiserslautem

on Friday and Saturday. Vicenza: The Cougars were domi-



ball wins over Division III Florence, winning by 45-8 and 40-4 margins. One of three new call-ups to Division I this season.

Vicenza won't see any intradivision ac-tion until Jan. 23-24 against visiting Patch, Naples and Vilseck. Vilseck: The Falcons took a narrow

marksmanship



top five, as Taylor Tucker finished third and Victoria Banister took fifth.



boys

A pair of all-around brilliant efforts kept scorekeepers busy and the Warrior boys and girls basketball teams undefeated Saturday, Isaah Ne-

gron totaled 20 points, 11 steals, seven assists and seven rebounds for the boys and Cierra Martin amassed 12 points, 15 rebounds, six steals and four blocked shots for the girls as both teams defeated Bitburg.

- Greg Broome

HIGH SCHOOL: DODDS PACIFIC/NHL

NEWS AND NOTES FROM THE WEEKEND

Cobras seem to have found the hot hand

Lack of consistent perimeter shooting has been E.J. King boys basketball's downfall the last three seasons, coach Scott Jarrard said

The Cobras might have found the answer to that problem in the form of sophomore three-point specialist Seth Hudson. He scored all 18 of his points by dialing long distance in a 44-26 win over Canadian Academy.

It helped E.J. King walk away from the Western Japan Athletic Association tournament with a perfect 4-0 record to open the season, matching that of DODDS Japan Division II rival Perry



"Now, we have one good little shooter," Jarrard said. The Cobras are still trying to figure out what Hudson's ultimate role will be and trying to piece together their rotation, but "I like what I see so far," he said. Jacob Lyle also had a big tournament, av-

eraging 26 points as the Cobras also easily handled host Senri Osaka International 50-24 on Saturday. and on Friday dispatched Nagoya International 89-31 and Kyoto International University Academy 66-33.

The Samurai, with its senior core of Jon Cadavos and Jarell Davis, also carved out a 4-0 mark, three by huge margins, 65-23 over Nagoya, 59-39 over Canadian Academy and 57-24 over KIUA. Senri Osaka gave them a bit of a tougher time before succumbing 45-33.

The presence of Cadavos and Davis, the team's captains, "was felt in every aspect" of all four games, Perry assistant coach Ronnie Pride said. "Their veteran play has become infectious among the younger players, which (will) help (Perry) prepare for a successful season and (DODDS Japan and Far Fast Division II Tournament) run '

Edgren: Eagles girls basketball, with many of its players fresh off a second-place Far East D-II volleyball finish, opened on the road with a big win, 45-28, at Seisen International, with senior Vanessa Black leading the way with 17 points. . Eagles wrestling also opened strong, win-

ning all five of its dual meets to capture the season-opening Edgren Invitational.



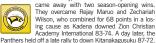
Yokota: Many might argue that DODDS Pacific officials may have dropped Panthers boys basketball to Division II too soon, especially after Jermaine Neal and Jadan Anderson combined for 49 points and nine three-pointers in a 90-59 romp over American School In Japan. The Mustangs

won the D-I title two years ago and finished third last year. Kinnick: Red Devils girls basketball, two years removed from the D-I title, trailed Yokota most of the



way Friday, somehow rallied for a three-point lead before fading 33-28 to the Panthers. Senior Rhyssa Hizon, barely 5 feet tall, had 24 rebounds, 14 on offense and Kinnick totaled 28 offensive rebounds.

Kadena: It wasn't easy, but Panthers boys basketball



Justin Wilson averaged 21.5 points for Kadena. Kuhasaki: Skylor Stevens' transfer from Kadena is already



paying dividends for the Dragons. The junior averaged 15.5 points as Kubasaki doubled up Okinawa Christian International 78-39 in Thursday's opener and an 87-60 home win over Ginowan on Saturday.

Guam: With a 54-52 win over St. Paul Christian, Panthers girls basketball finished 7-3 and qualified for the Independent Interscholastic Athletic Association of Guam playoffs for the first time in five seasons. Boys soccer is also in position to make the playoffs; they've won their last four



SHEILA SUCKART/Special to Stars and Stripes

Mason Macias of Yokota flips Edgren's Daniel Lovette upside down during their bout in the Edgren Division II dual-meet tournament Saturday at Misawa Air Base. Edgren won the dual meet 45-15 and took first place in the event, while Yokota finished third.

matches to improve to 7-4 with one match left Thursday Seoul American: Move-in junior guard Jez Harper has



proven to be an early revelation for Falcons boys basketball. He went 4-for-4 from threepoint range and totaled 18 points as Seoul American improved to 2-0 by beating Yongsan International-Seoul 60-23. ... Jack Barnes, the reigning Far East 215-pound wrestling champion, picked

up where he left off, winning the 215-pound class in a season-opening tournament at Osan.

Osan: Cougars basketball has discovered its own Big Three in opening the season with two wins in as many games. Nicholas White, Chase Kings-



Humphreys: Even in defeat, Blackhawks girls basketball found something they could take away from a 34-32 loss to Seoul Foreign. Humphreys trailed most of the way by 12 points before falling just short in a late rally. Coach Ashley Gooch said it was the confidence boost her charges needed

going forward.



Daegu: The reigning Far East D-II basketball champion teams had a rough beginning, each losing twice on the road, and it doesn't get any easier as Christmas break approaches: The Warriors have road games Saturday at Seoul American and Dec. 17 at Osan.

Zama: Success filled the weekend for boys and girls basketball. Joseph Atkinson averaged 17 points as the Trojans beat St. Maur International 47-36 and Edgren 49-38 on successive days. Tiara Carroll had 17 to lead Zama girls past St. Maur 41-36 on the road.

NHL roundup

Brodeur happy with first win with Blues

UNIONDALE, N.Y. - Paul Stastny scored twice - including the go-ahead goal in the third period - and the Blues rallied to beat the New York Islanders 6-4, on Saturday, giving relief goaltender Martin Brodeur his first win in a St. Louis uniform.

Stastny's second goal of the game and his fifth of the season at 13:26 of the third snapped a 4-4 tie and gave the Blues their first lead. St. Louis fell behind 3-0 in the first period, then replaced starter Jake Allen with Brodeur to start the second.

Brodeur made 14 saves for career win No. 689 and his 52nd against the Islanders, the most for the 42-year-old goaltender against any team.

Penguins 3, Senators 2: Evgeni Malkin scored twice and Christian Ehrhoff added the goahead goal with 1:50 remaining in the third period to give host Pittsburgh a win over Ottawa.

The loss was Ottawa's fifth in a row. The Senators, 1-6-1 in their past eight games, were coming off a 2-1 loss at home Thursday against the New York Islanders that included an emotional retirement ceremony for longtime Ottawa captain Daniel Alfredsson.

Flyers 2, Kings 1: Steve Mason made 37 saves and Philadelphia got goals from Claude Giroux and Wayne Simmonds in victory over host Los Angeles, snapping a sixgame losing streak. The victory was only the sec-

ond in 12 games for the Flyers, who avoided tying the franchise record of 10 consecutive road

Justin Williams scored for the defending Stanley Cup champi-ons and Jonathan Ouick faced only 16 shots.

Capitals 4, Devils 1: Jay Beagle and Evgeny Kuznetsov scored 3:25 apart in the second period and Braden Holtby stopped 33 shots to lead Washington over host New Jersey.

Karl Alzner and Brooks Laich also scored for Washington. Patrik Elias scored and Cory Schneider had 25 saves while starting for the 25th time in New Jersey's 27 games this season. The Devils have lost eight of their last 10 and are 3-5-1 against Metropolitan Division teams. Panthers 3, Sabres 2: Nick

Bjugstad scored late in the second period and rookie Aaron Ekblad had three assists to lift host Florida over Buffalo.

Tomas Kopecky and Brad Boyes also scored for the Panthers, who got 26 saves from Roberto Luongo. The Panthers are 4-1-1 in their past five games and have won five in a row over Buffalo going back to last season.

Blackhawks 3, Predators 1: Marian Hossa scored two goals to lead Chicago over host Nashville.

Brandon Saad had a goal and an assist for Chicago, which won its sixth game in a row and ninth — Dave Ornauer in the last 10. With the win, the Division lead.

Colin Wilson had the lone goal for Nashville, which saw its sevengame home winning streak end.

Blue Jackets 3, Lightning 1: Sergei Bobrovsky made 33 saves to help Columbus beat host Tampa Bay for its third straight win.

Boone Jenner, David Savard and Jack Skille scored for the Blue Jackets. Bobrovsky lost his shutout bid with 1:13 left in the third on Ondrej Palat's goal.

The Eastern Conference-leading Lightning had their five-game home winning streak end.

Red Wings 3, Rangers 2: Dar-

ren Helm and host Detroit rallied to beat New York and give coach Mike Babcock his 500th career victory. Helm's wrist shot past Cam

Talbot broke a 2-2 tie midway through the third period and capped a three-goal comeback.

Detroit's Riley Sheahan and Luke Glendening scored a minute apart in the second period to tie

the score.

Bruins 5, Coyotes 2: Brad Marchand scored twice, Tuukka Rask stopped 31 shots and Boston used a quick start to beat reeling host Arizona and avoid a winless road trip.

The Coyotes lost their seventh straight on home ice for the longest home skid since the franchise moved to Arizona in 1996.

Dallas 4, Canadiens 1: Tyler Seguin had two goals and an assist to help host Dallas beat slumping Montreal, ending a four-game losing streak.

Cody Eakin and Ryan Garbutt also scored for the Stars, who had goals during a 5-on-4 power play, a 5-on-3 advantage, while skating 4-on-4 and into an empty net.

Maple Leafs 5, Canucks 2: Jonathan Bernier made 44 saves and host Toronto got goals from five different players in a win over Vancouver.

Ryan Miller, whose strong play has been a big part of the Canucks' resurgence, gave up four goals on 14 shots before giving way to Eddie Lack.

Sharks 3, Flames 2: Logan Couture scored and set up Patrick Marleau's tiebreaking goal as San Jose beat host Calgary.

Justin Braun also scored for the Sharks and Antti Niemi finished with 33 saves

Mark Giordano and Johnny Gaudreau scored for Calgary, which snapped its four-game winning streak. Karri Ramo stopped 27 shots and snapped a personal six-game win streak.

Marleau scored the winner at 9:18 of the third period on a unique play. When Couture swatted at the puck behind the net, it deflected off the stick of Flames defenseman Giordano and went high into the air, sailed over top of the Calgary net and came down right in front of Marleau. Marleau then batted the puck out of the air past Ramo, who had no idea where the puck was.

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NHL scoreboard

Factorn Conference

			····	010		
			Divi			
	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA
Tampa Bay	28	18	7	3	39	98 72
Detroit	27	16	6	5	37	85 69
Montreal	29	17	10	2	36	74 76
Toronto	26	14	9	3	31	89 79
Boston	28	15	12	1	31	72 72
Florida	25	11	7	7	29	56 64
Ottawa	26	10	11	5	25	66 71
Buffalo	27	9	16	2	20	47 85
Me	tro	oolit	an D	ivisi	on	
Pittsburgh	26	18	6	2	38	85 60
N.Y. Islanders	27	19	8	ō	38	86 74
Washington	26	12	10	4	28	74 71
N.Y. Rangers	25	11	10	4	26	73 73
New Jersey	27	10	13	4	24	64 79
Philadelphia	26	-9	13	4	22	68 82
Columbus	26	9	15	2	20	61 88
Carolina	25	8	14	3	19	57 71

Western Conference

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF GA							
Chicago	27	18	8	1	37	85 53							
Nashville	26	17	7	2	36	70 54							
St. Louis	27	17	8	2	36	76 63							
Winnipea	27	14	9	4	32	61 60							
Minnesota	25	14	10	1	29	71 61							
Dallas	27	10	12	5	25	79 95							
Colorado	27	9	12	6	24	72 89							
Pacific Division													
Anaheim	28	17	6	5	39	81 76							
Vancouver	27	18	8	1	37	84 74							
Calgary	28	17	9	2	36	89 72							
Los Angeles	27	14	8	5	33	72 59							
San Jose	28	14	10	- 4	32	80 77							
Arizona	28	10	15	3	23	66 90							
Edmonton	26	6	15	5	17	58 90							
Note: Tw	о ро	ints	for a	a wii	n. on	e point							
for overtime	e los:	s.											
	Fric	lay's	gar	nes									
Anahoim	E M	inne	ents	. 4									

Anaheim 5, Minnesota 4 Winnipeg 6, Colorado 2 Chicago 4, Montreal 3 Saturday's games Pittsburgh 3, Ottawa 2 St. Louis 6, N.Y. Islanders 4 Philadelphia 2, Los Angeles 1 Toronto 5, Vancouver 2 Detroit 3, N.Y. Rangers 2 Columbus 3, Tampa Bay 1 Florida 3, Buffalo 2 Florida 3, Buffalo 2 Washington 4, New Jersey 1 Chicago 3, Nashville 1 Dallas 4, Montreal 1 Boston 5, Arizona 2 San Jose 3, Calgary 2 Sunday's games

Sunday's games
Anaheim at Winnipeg
Detroit at Carolina
Vancouver at Ottawa
San Jose at Edmonton
Monday's games
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Rangers
New Jersey at Carolina
Florida at St. Louis

Saturday Flyers 2, Kings 1

Philadelphia Los Angeles 1 1 0-2 0 0 1-1 Los Angeles
First Period – 1, Philadelphia, Giroux 8
(Streit, Grossmann), 4:35.
Second Period – 2, Philadelphia, Simmonds 11 (Couturier, MacDonald), 2:08

(pp),
Third Period—3, Los Angeles, Williams
6 (Stoll, Regehr), 4:09.
Shots on Goal—Philadelphia 7:6-3—16.
Los Angeles 7:15-16—38.
Power-play opportunities—Philadelphia 1 of 5; Los Angeles 0 of 5.
Goalies—Philadelphia, Mason 5-9-3
(38 shots-37 saves). Los Angeles, Quick
116-4 (16-14).

A=18 230 (18 118) T=2:26 Maple Leafs 5. Canucks 2

Vancouver First Period—1, Toronto, Gardiner 2, 15:47. 2, Toronto, Panik 5 (Smith, Booth), 16:32.

16:32.

Second Period—3, Toronto, Holland
6, 4:16. 4, Toronto, Lupul 6 (Holland,
Clarkson), 5:39. 5, Vancouver, D.Sedin 7
(H.Sedin, Vrbata), 15:21.

Third Period—6, Vancouver, Tanev 1
(Vey, Richardson), 8:45. 7, Toronto, Clarkson 8 (Lupul), 17:39 (en).

Shots on 6au—10:49-9—28.

Power-play opportunities—Vancouver 0 of 6; Toronto 0 of 3.

0 of 6; Toronto 0 of 3. Goalies—Vancouver, Miller 16-5-0 (14 shots-10 saves), Lack (5:39 second, 13-13). Toronto, Bernier 10-6-3 (46-44). A=19,346 (18,819). T=2:31.

Blues 6. Islanders 4

St. Louis	0	3	3-6
N.Y. Islanders	3	1	0-4
First Period-1, N.Y. Island	ers,	Ni	elsen
6 (Okposo, Leddy), 7:57 (pp). 2,	N.	Y. Is-
landers, Strome 6, 18:01. 3, N.			ders,
Grabner 1 (Donovan, Leddy),	19:3	9.	
Second Period-4, St. Lo.	uis,	Sta	astny
4 (Shattenkirk, Backes), 2:36	(p)	o).	5, St.

second Period—4, S. Löuis, Stastiny Griden (1976), S. Sh. (Shatlenkin, Backey, 128 (1976), S. Sh. (Shatlenkin, Backey, 128 (1976), S. Sh. (19

A-16,170 (16,170), T-2:44.

Penguins 3, Senators 2

Ottawa 0 2 0-2 Pittsburgh 1 1 1-3 First Period-1, Pittsburgh, Malkin 13, 4:17. 4:17.
Second Period—2, Ottawa, Legwand
4 (Michalek, Karlsson), 1:13 (pp). 3, Ot-

- (Michaek, Karisson), 1:13 (pp). 3, Ottawa, Zibanejad 5 (Ryan, Methot), 8:44, Pittsburgh, Malkin 14 (Sutter, Maatta), 18:03 (pn). 03 (pp). **Third Period—**5, Pittsburgh, Ehrhoff 2

Third Period—9, PILLSDURY, STATE OF THE PRIOR OF THE PRIO hots-30 saves). PILIDEG g.... (29-27). A=18,492 (18,387). T=2:29.

Sharks 3, Flames 2

Sharks 3, Flames 2
San Jose 2
Sal Jose 2
Sal Jose 2
Sal Jose 2
Sal Jose 2
First Period – 1, Calgary, Giordano 7
(0. Jones, Giencross), 17:32.
Sal Jose 2
Sal Jose 3
S

Stars 4. Canadiens 1

Dallas — Experiment — 1 2 1-4 [First Period — 1, Dallas, Exish (6 eguin, Goligoski), 11:23 (pp), Penalties — Emelin, Mon (holdin, 11:17, Subban, 11:17, S

(17-16). A-16,098 (18,532). T-2:31.

Capitals 4, Devils 1

Capitals 4, Devils 1
Washington 1 2 1-4
New Jersey 1 0 0-7
First Period -1, Washington, Alzner 1
(Wilson), 347, 2; New Jersey, Elias 3 (2uFirst Period -1, Washington, Alzner 1
Wilson), 347, 2; New Jersey, Elias 3 (2uSecond Period -3, Washington, Beagle
4 (Carlson, Latta), 9:15, 4, Washington, Reagle
4 (Carlson, Latta), 9:15, 4, Washington, Maryander 1, 19:35 (en), 19:35 (

Panthers 3. Sabres 2 Buffalo

Florida First Period-1, Florida, Boyes 5 (Joki

First Period—1, Florida, Boyes 5 (Joki-nen, Ekblad), 13:05.
Second Period—2, Buffalo, Stafford 5 (Hodgson, Gorges), 11:02. 3, Florida, Ko-pecky 1 (Ekblad, Bjugstad), 12:55. 4, Buf-falo, Gionta 3 (Weber, T.Mitchell), 15:54. ilo, Gionta 3 (Weber, I.Mitchell), 15:54 Florida, Bjugstad 11 (Ekblad, Fleis hmann), 19:43,

chmann), 19:43. Shots on Goal—Buffalo 9-9-10—28. Florida 10-14-13—37.

Florida 10-14-13-37.

Power-play opportunities—Buffalo 0 of 2; Florida 0 of 1.

Goalies—Buffalo, Neuvirth 3-6-1 (37 shots-34 saves). Florida, Luongo 9-5-6

A=8 597 (17 040) T=2-24

Red Wings 3. Rangers 2 N.Y. Rangers

2 0 0-2 0 2 1-3

netroit - 2 1-3 2 1-3 (Hayes, Hapelin), 931, 22, N.Y. Rangers, Klein 5 (Hayes, Hapelin), 931, 22, N.Y. Rangers, Klein 5 (Hayes, Hapelin), 931, 22, N.Y. Rangers, Second Period - 3, Detroit, Shenhan 6 (Weiss, Franzen), 14:14, 4, Detroit, Gleining 3 (Anderson), DMilley, 15:15.
DeKeyser), 7:40. – 5 (Hayes), 15:15.
DeKeyser), 7:40. – 5 (Hayes), 15:15.
DeKeyser), 7:40. – 7 (Hayes), 15

Blackhawks 3, Predators 1

First Period-1, Chicago, Saad 6 (Keith), 14:53.

(keith), 14:53, amago, Saad 6 Second Period—2, Chicago, Hossa 4 (Saad, Seahook), 2:48. Third Period—3, Nashville, Wilson 6 (Bartley, Fisher), :34. 4, Chicago, Hossa 5, 18:49 (Earley, Fisher), :34. 4, Chicago, Hossa 5,

:49 (en).

Shots on Goal—Chicago 10-12-9—31.
ashville 13-7-13—33. Power-play opportunities—Chicago 0 2; Nashville 0 of 1.

Goalies—Chicago, Darling 3-1-0 (33 Shots-32 saves). Nashville, Rinne 17-5-1 (30-28). A=17,212 (17,113). T=2:30.

Blue Jackets 3, Lightning 1

Tampa Bay

First Period – 1, Columbus, Jenner 4
(Calvert), 2:37, 2, Columbus, Savard 5
(Lohnson, Atkinson), 12:48 (Gpt. 1)
(Chaput, Hartnell), 4:51, 4, Tampa Bay,
Palat 8 (Kucherov, Drouin), 18:47,
Shots on Goal – Columbus 9-4.7–20.
Tampa Bay 14-12-8-34.
Power-play opportunities – Columbus
Goallero-Columbus, Bobrovsky, 8:8-1
(34 shots-33 saves), Tampa Bay, Bishop
16-4-2 (20-17).

-4-2 (20-17). ▲—17,467 (19,204). **T**—16:52.

Sharks 7, Bruins 4

2 2 0-4 0 4 3-7

Boston 2 2 0-4
San Jose
San Jo

(24-20), A-17,404 (17,562), T-2:24.

UFC 181

Lawler wins split decision to take Hendricks' belt

By GREG BEACHAM The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS - When Robbie Lawler got a second shot at the UFC welterweight title, he was determined to finish with a

Deep in the 25th minute against Johny Hendricks, Lawler unleashed wild flurries of strikes. He kept pursuing the champion even after the bell.

A few minutes later Lawler celebrated his remarkable midcareer resurgence with a belt around his waist.

Lawler won the 170-pound title at UFC 181 on Saturday night, claiming a split decision over Hendricks in their rematch. "I thought I needed to get in his

face," Lawler said. "That's how we fight in the UFC. That's how we fight championship fights.

earned his decision with a dogged five-round effort against Hendricks (16-3), who won the vacant belt by unanimous decision in their first bout in March. Lawler faded late in that fight, while Hendricks finished strong.

In the rematch, Lawler turned it around.

"My coaches just wanted me to go out there and finish strong and do what I do in the gym, and I was able to do that," Lawler said.

Hendricks controlled long stretches of the middle rounds with tactics and smart strikes while Lawler waned, but the champ appeared to coast to the finish of the final two rounds, perhaps swaying the judges in Lawler's favor.

Two judges scored the bout for Lawler, 49-46 and 48-47, while the third favored Hendricks, 48-47.



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COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Top 25 roundup

Independent NJIT stuns No. 17 Michigan

ANN ARBOR, Mich. - Not even NJIT's coach expected his team to win at Michigan. Just ask him

"Honestly, this wasn't in my game plan," Jim Engles said. Coming into the season, I sort of penciled this one in as an 'L.' I have to readjust my whole pro-cess here, as to, 'We just beat Michigan. I don't know, maybe we should be in the Top 25.

"I don't really know what to

How about this: The team that played for the national title less than two years ago just lost to a commuter school whose "arena" doubles as a campus fitness center. Damon Lynn made a criti-

cal three-pointer with less than three minutes to go and finished with 20 points to help New Jersey Institute of Technology stun the 17th-ranked Wolverines 72-70 Saturday.

Engles, now in his seventh year at N.HT has been through a lot He inherited a program that went 0-29 the year before his arrival, eventually snapping a 51-game losing streak after losing his first 18 contests.

He and the Newark, N.J., school with roughly 10,000 students were perhaps the biggest losers of the last bout of conference realignment, when the majority of the Great West Conference folded into the Western Athletic Conference, leaving NJIT as the only independent basketball program in Division I.

Among other consequences, that means NJIT, whose list of famous athletic alumni is more just "Who?" than "a Who's Who" would need to do well enough to earn an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament because it can't receive an automatic one for winning a conference

"I may appreciate winning more than anyone in the country," Engles said. "When I go into a season — and I hate to say it this way — it's hard to win."

NJIT is left hoping that someone, perhaps in the America East or the Northeast Conference, will



NJIT players celebrate along the bench as forward Daquan Holiday, bottom right, reacts after drawing a foul late in the second half Saturday against Michigan in Ann Arbor, Mich. NJIT won 72-70.

take notice of the team whose gym boasts a capacity of 1,500 along with two weight rooms, a jogging track and a sauna.

Michigan recently installed an indoor waterfall in its home arena as part of a \$52-million renovation that also added new scoreboards and luxury boxes.

"We're doing everything we need to do to get in a league," Engles said, "I would like to be in a conference. My kids deserve it. We shouldn't be the only independent in the country. We're not Notre Dame football.

"I don't understand why someone in the NCAA - or someone - hasn't taken more of an active role in this. We have Division I athletes. We've gone through the reclassification process. done everything the NCAA has asked us. . We need to be involved with everyone else."

Caris LeVert scored 32 points for Michigan but the Wolverines (6-2) as a team only shot 42 percent from the field.

No. 2 Wisconsin 49, Marquette 39: Josh Gasser scored 12 points on four three-pointers,

7-footer Frank Kaminsky added 15 points and 10 rebounds.

The visiting Badgers (8-1) shot 32 percent while contending with a 2-3 zone defense by the undersized Golden Eagles, who don't have a starter taller than 6-7

But Wisconsin looked sloppy at times in the second half, and Marquette (4-4) chipped away at a 10-point halftime deficit.

No. 3 Arizona, No. 9 Gonzaga 63 (OT): T.J. McConnell scored six of his 12 points in overtime and host Arizona held on for the win after Byron Wesley air-balled the first of three missed free throws with 3.3 seconds left.

Arizona (8-0) rallied from a poor-shooting first half and a couple of deficits in the second half to force overtime. Brandon Ashley had 14 points in the Wildcats' 26th straight home win.

Gonzaga (7-1) shot well inside, but went 4-for-17 from threepoint range and had two key turnovers late in overtime

No. 7 Virginia 74, VCU 57: Justin Anderson scored 21 points, and Virginia ended VCU's 22game home winning streak.

Anderson showed no signs of the twisted right ankle that knocked him out of Virginia's victory at Maryland on Wednesday night.

helping the Cavaliers move to 9-0 for the first time since 2001-02 No. 8 Wichita State 81, Saint Louis 52: Ron Baker scored 18 points, and host Wichita State rebounded from Wednesday's over-

time loss at Utah

He hit six of seven shots while

Evan Wessel and Rauno Nurger had 15 points apiece for the Shockers (5-1). The setback against the Utes was Wichita State's first regular-season loss since March 2, 2013.

No. 10 Villanova 74, Saint Joseph's 46: Josh Hart scored 12 points for unbeaten Villanova, and Phil Booth and Darrun Hilliard each had 11.

The Wildcats (8-0) scored the first eight points, led by 15 only 6 minutes into the game and treated the rest of the afternoon like a glorified exhibition against one of their biggest rivals.

Villanova thumped Saint Joseph's 98-68 last year and has remained the class of Philadelphia's

No. 14 Ohio State 70, Colgate 50: D'Angelo Russell scored 14 of his 19 points in the second half and Marc Loving added 17 points, leading host Ohio State to the win.

The Buckeyes (6-1) lost at No. 5 Louisville 64-55 in their last outing in the ACC/Big Ten Challenge on Tuesday night.

Ohio State used an 11-0 run to put Colgate away in the second half. Kam Williams capped the surge with a four-point play with 5:03 left and finished with 11 points.

Green Bay 68, No. 15 Miami 55: Carrington Love scored a career-high 20 points, and Green Bay deployed an effective zone defense in the second half on the way to the road win.

Miami (8-1) scored only one basket in the first 12 minutes of the second half. It shot a seasonlow 33 percent, including 5-for-20

from three-point range.

No. 19 Michigan State 85,
Arkansas-Pine Bluff 52: Matt Costello and Travis Trice each scored 15 points to lead host Michigan State to the easy win.

Branden Dawson had 12 points and seven rebounds for Michigan State (6-3). Bryn Forbes added 12-points, making 4 of 7 three-

point shots.

No. 21 Maryland 82, Winthrop 62: Jake Layman scored 21 points for host Maryland, and freshman Melo Trimble and Richaud Pack had 16 apiece.

Jared Nickens added 12 points for the Terrapins (8-1), who bounced back from a double-digit home loss to No. 7 Virginia on Wednesday.

No. 23 Butler 65, Northwestern 56: Kellen Dunham scored 19 points, and Butler held off a late charge by Northwestern.

Roosevelt Jones added points and six rebounds for the host Bulldogs.

No. 24 Illinois 70, American 55: Malcolm Hill scored 13

points, powering host Illinois to the win The Illini (7-1) shot 48 percent

from the field and outrebounded the Eagles 29-18.



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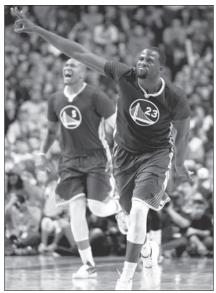








NBA/COLLEGE FOOTBALL



Golden State forward Draymond Green (23) celebrates after sinking a three point shot against the Bulls in Chicago on Saturday. Green scored a career high 31 points in the Warriors' 112-102 win.

Roundup

Green, Warriors win 12th straight

The Associated Press

CHICAGO - Draymond Green scored a career-high 31 points and the Golden State Warriors beat the Chicago Bulls 112-102 on Saturday night to set a franchise record with their 12th straight victory.

Klay Thompson added 24 points for the Warriors, who extended their league-best record to 17-2. Jimmy Butler led the Bulls with 24 points. Pau Gasol added

22 points and 20 rebounds. The Warriors improved to 10-1

on the road. They previously won a franchise-record 11 straight games from Dec. 29, 1971-Jan. 22, 1972. The Bulls fell to 2-5 at home.

During warmups, Chicago point guard Derrick Rose wore a black "I Can't Breathe" T-shirt, referring to a New York man who died July 17 after a police officer placed him in a chokehold when he was being arrested for selling loose, untaxed cigarettes.

A grand jury decided it would not indict the officer in Eric Garner's death. A videotape recording of the arrest showed Garner gasping, "I can't breathe" during the fatal encounter Thousands have protested the grand jury decision around the country.

76ers 108, Pistons 101 (OT):

Hollis Thompson's three-pointer in the final seconds sent the game to overtime, and visiting Philadelphia outlasted Detroit in a matchup of the teams with the NBA's two worst records.

Detroit (3-17) dropped its 11th straight and now leads the 76ers (2-18) by only a game in the standings. Philadelphia has won two of three after an 0-17 start.

Magic 105, Kings 96: Tobias Harris scored a season-high 27 points for visiting Orlando, and Channing Frye made a gamechanging three-pointer late in the fourth quarter.

Rockets 100, Suns 95: Trevor Ariza and Pat Beverley each scored 19 points, leading host Houston to its fourth straight win.

Spurs 123, Timberwolves

101: Marco Belinelli scored 20 points, Tim Duncan had 13 points and 10 rebounds, and host San Antonio rolled to the easy win.

Clippers 120, Pelicans 100: Blake Griffin scored 30 points, going over 7,000 for his career, and Los Angeles rallied after blowing an 18-point, first-half lead to beat visiting New Orleans for its seventh straight victory.

Scoreboard

Eastern Conference

	W	L	Pct	GB							
Toronto	15	5	.750	_							
Brooklyn	8	10	.444	6							
Boston	6	11	.353	73							
New York	4	17	.190	113							
Philadelphia	2	18	.100	13							
Southeast Division											
Washington	13	5	.722	_							
Atlanta	12	6	.667	1							
Miami	9	10	.474	43							
Orlando	9	14	.391	61							
Charlotte	5	15	.250	9							
Central	Divisio	n									
Cleveland	11	7	.611	_							
Chicago	12	8	.600	_							
Milwaukee	11	10	.524	13							
Indiana	7	13	.350	- 5							
Detroit	3	17	.150	9							
144 1 6											



A.Lakers 5 15 .250 1: Friday's games Oklahoma City 103, Philadelphia 91 Washington 119, Denver 89 Charlotte 103, New York 102 Cleveland 105, Toronto 91 Boston 113, L.A. Lakers 96 Atlanta 98, Brooklyn 75 San Antonio 107, Memphis 101

Denver at Atlanta
Miami at Memphis
Oklahoma City at Detroit
Milwaukee at Dallas
Portland at New York
New Orleans at L.A. Lakers
Monday's games
Boston at Washington

Atlanta at Inglana Denver at Toronto Cleveland at Brooklyn Golden State at Minnesota Utah at Sacramento Phoenix at L.A. Clippers

Magic 105, Kings 96

ORLANDO - Harris 10-17 3-4 27, Frye 7 0-0 6, O'Quinn 5-5 2-2 13, Oladipo 6-15

ORLANDO — Harris 10-17 3-4 27, Frye 27-00-60, CV Quidin 5-5 2-213, Oldiquip 6-15 2-21-20, Oldiquip 6-15 2-21-20, Oldiquip 6-15 2-20, Oldiquip 6-15

Warriors 112, Bulls 102

GOLDEN STATE — Barnes 3-3 3-4 11, Green 11-20 2-2 31, Bogut 2-7 0-1 4, Curry 5-14 8-9 19, Thompson 9-23 4-4 24, Iguo-dala 3-6 0-0 6, Barbosa 0-1 0-0 0, Speights 4-10 3-5 11, Livingston 3-5 0-0 6. Totals 40-

Golden State 28 33 18 33–112
Chicago 7 31 22–102
Three-Point Goals—Golden State 1230 (Green 7-13, Barnes 2-2, Thompson 2-,
8, Curry 1-5, Iguodala 0-1, Barbosa 0-1),
Brooks 1-2, Hinrich 1-4, Rose 1-7), Fouled
Out—None. Rebounds—Golden State 46
(Bogut 12), Chicago 59 (Basol 20), 8sists—Golden State 27 (Curry 7), Chicago
24 (Rose 6), Total Fouls—Golden State 7. icago 23. Technicals—Golden State ach Kerr, A—22.353 (20.917).

Spurs 123, Timberwolves 101

MINNESOTA — Wiggins 3-13 0-0 6, Young 5-8 4-6 14, Dieng 1-4 6-6 8, LaVine 8-15 4-5 22, Brewer 3-10 0-0 7, Budinger 1-5 0-0 3, Muhammad 7-12 5-9 20, Bennett 6-11 2-2 14, Adrien 0-0 0-0 0, Hummel 0-1 0-0 0, Robinson III 1-4 4-4 7. Totals 35-83

25-32 101. SAN ANTONIO — Leonard 7-12 4-5 18, Duncan 5-11 3-3 13, Bonner 4-6 0-0 10, Joseph 7-10 4-4 18, Green 4-9 2-2 11, Be-linelli 7-12 2-2 20, Baynes 2-2 1-1 5, Diaw 6-10 5-6 17, Anderson 1-3 1-2 3, Ayres 3-4 0-0 6, Daye 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 47-82 22-25

San Antonio 31 37 28 27-123
Three-Point Goals—Minnesota 6-16
(LaVine 2-4, Muhammad 1-2, Robinson III 1-2, Budinger 1-3, Brever 1-4, BenII 1-2, Budinger 1-3, Brever 1-4, BenBonner 2-3, Green 1-4, Daye 6-1, Diaw 02, Leonard 0-2), Fouled 0-0t –None. Rebounds—Minnesota 41 (Bennett 10), San Antonio 52 (Duncan 10). Assists—Minnesota 20 (LaVine 10), San Antonio 30 (Belinelli 6), Total Fouls—Minnesota 22, San Illelli 6, Total Fouls—Minneso Antonio 24. Technicals—Minnesota de-fensive three second. A—18,581 (18,797).

76ers 108, Pistons 101 (OT)

76ers 108, Pistons 101 (0T)
PHIABLUPILIA – Muba h Mote 3 12
8-12 14, Notel 3-7; 3-9; Sims 4-10-0-9; Serte-Williams 812 4-2; 30, Thompson 5-2
6-2, McDaniels 3-10-0-6, Davies 3-7; 0-6, Sampson 1-2-0-1, Totals 4-89; 7-12-3; 108, Sampson 1-2-0-1, Totals 4-99; 7-12-3; 108, Sampson 1-2-0-1, Totals 4-99; 7-13-3; 108, Sampson 1-2-0-1, Totals 4-99; 7-13-3; 108, Sampson 1-2-0-0, Totals 3-8-7; 3-10, Morror 4-2-6, Sampson 1-2-0, Totals 4-9, Totals 4-90; 109, Sampson 1-2-0, Samps

Rockets 100. Suns 95

Houston 3 25 25 20 20-100 Three-Point Goals Phoenis, 7-28 Green 2-4, Luc L., Warren L. 2, Houston 23. Technicals _G. Dragic. A. 1,86.00 (16,022).

Clippers 120, Pelicans 100

NEW ORLEANS — Babbitt 4-6 0-0 12, A.Davis 9-15 8-9 26, Asik 3-4 4-6 10, Holi-day 3-7 1-27, Evans 5-13 2-4 13, Rivers 3-81-2 8, Salmons 1-40-0 2, Anderson 7-14 0-0 16, Ajinca 2-2 0-2 4, D.Cunningham 1-3 0-0 2, Mekel 0-4

0-0 16. Ajlinca 2-2 0-2 4, D.Cunningham 13-0-22, Mede 0-4-0-0, Wilthey 0-0-0-0 Totals 38-80 16-25 100.

Totals 38-80 17-24 120.

Totals 38-80 17-24 120.

Totals 38-80 17-24 120.

Totals 38-80 17-24 120.

Three-Point Goals—New Ordenas 8-23 (Babbitt 4-5, Anderson 2-8, Rivers 1-4, Sammon 5-1, Mede 10-1, Holiston 1-1, Totals 38-80 10-1, Holiston 1-1, Holiston 1-1

	Scor	ına									
	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG						
Bryant, LAL	20	175	136	516	25.8						
Davis, NOR	18	177	101	455	25.3						
Harden, HOU	20	143	172	503	25.2						
James, CLE	18	152	110	442	24.6						
Cousins, SAC	15	126	100	352	23.5						
Curry, GOL	19	150	83	441	23.2						
Anthony, NYK	19	165	82	440	23.2						
Rebounds											
	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG						
Cousins, SAC	15	46	143	189	12.6						
Jordan, LAC	19	60	172	232	12.2						
Chandler, DAL	21	95	159	254	12.1						
Gasol, CHI	17	41	162	203	11.9						

Cowboys get OT win over $\operatorname{Sooners}$

By CLIFF BRUNT The Associated Press

NORMAN Okla - With one dynamic burst of speed, Tyreek Hill saved Oklahoma State's season

With about a minute to play and the Cowboys trailing rival Oklahoma 35-28, Hill fielded a punt at the Oklahoma State 8-yard line.

The track sprinter cut toward the left sideline, beat two defenders, picked up a block at the Oklahoma State 45 and was gone to the end zone. His 92-vard touchdown tied the score with 45 seconds remaining and forced overtime.

"At the time it didn't feel real because I was crying while I was running, so it didn't feel real at all," he said. "Tears of joy. Ben Grogan's 21-yard field goal

completed the comeback, and Oklahoma State upset the 18thranked Sooners 38-35 on Saturday to become bowl-eligible.

"I'm happy for our seniors an opportunity to stay together for another month or however long it will be, to play in a bowl game," Oklahoma State coach Mike Gundy said. Samaje Perine ran for 151

vards and two touchdowns for Oklahoma (8-4, 5-4), but left the game in the third quarter with a severely sprained left ankle and didn't return. The Sooners led 28-14 when he was injured.

Scoreboard

NCAA FCS playoffs

NCAA FCS playoffs
Second Round
Saturday, Deciden 19
New Hamashurday, Saturday, Saturday, Saturday, Sam Houston St. 27, Jacksonville St. 26
N. Dakota St. 27, Sc. Dakota St. 24
New Hampshire (11.1) vs. Chattanooga
(10)
New Hampshire (11.1) vs. Fastern Washington (11.2)
No. Castal (20)
New Hampshire (11.1) vs. Scattern Washington (11.2)
No. Coastal (20)
New Hampshire (11.1) vs. North Dacotatal (20)
New Hampshire (20)
New Hamp

Coastal Carolina (12-1) vs. North Da-kota State (12-1)

NCAA Division II playoffs

Quarterfinals
Saturday, Dec. 6
Concord (W.Ya.) 32, Bloomsburg 26
West Georgia 31, Valdosta State 17
Minnesota State (Mankato) 44, Minnesota-Dubt 147
Olorado State-Pueblo 31, Ohio Dominican 28

Semifinals Semifinals
Saturday, Dec. 13
Concord (W.Va.) (13-0) vs. Minnesota
State-(Mankato) (13-0), TBA
West Georgia (12-2) vs. Colorado
State-Pueblo (12-1), TBA

NCAA Division III playoffs

Quarterfinals Saturday, Dec. 6 Saturday, Dec. 6
Wesley 41, Hobart 13
Linffield 45, Widener 7
Mount Union 36, Doft Carroll 28
Wisconsin-Winer 37, Wartburg 33
Saturday, Dec. 13
Wisconsin-Whitewater (13-0) vs. Linfield (11-1)

ld (11-1) Wesley (12-1) vs. Mount Union (13-0)

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Ohio St. crushes Wisconsin to win Big Ten

By MICHAEL MAROT The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS - While Ohio State fans chanted "We want 'Bama," coach

Urban Meyer argued for an opportunity. Moments after No. 6 Ohio State (12-1, 8-0) finished its 59-0 rout of No. 11 Wisconsin, Meyer hoisted the Big Ten championship trophy in the air and lobbied for a spot in

the inaugural College Football Playoff. "I don't think there's any doubt we're one of the top four teams in America." Mever shouted to the crowd but almost defiantly to the selection committee, which made its decision Sunday

Some expected the Buckeyes to drop out of the conversation with the tough game against the Badgers. Instead, the Buckeyes made an emphatic statement.

Cardale Jones, who started this season as the Buckeyes' No. 3 quarterback, looked every bit as good as Braxton Miller and J.T. Barrett. Jones even did something his allconference predecessors could not - leading the Buckeyes to the conference title

The first-time starter threw for 257 vards and three touchdowns and earned MVP honors. Afterward, he slid a rose into the side of his hat, hopeful of a playoff bid.

The Buckeyes have won 11 straight since losing at home to Virginia Tech. They have defeated nine bowl-eligible teams, all but two by double digits.

And Jones' play may have tamped down the argument that the Buckeyes shouldn't make it after losing Barrett to a broken right ankle in the regular-season finale.

Jones was efficient and effective, going 12-for-17. Ezekiel Elliott had 20 carries for a career-high 220 vards, and Devin Smith caught four passes for 137 yards and three

The defense completely shut down Wisconsin (10-3, 7-1) and kept Melvin Gordon, the nation's leading rusher, under control Gordon ran 26 times for 76 yards in his second-worst game of the season, and Ohio State handed the Badgers their first shutout since August 1997. It was also their worst loss since a 59-0 rout, also against the Buckeyes, in 1979.

All of this came after an emotional week for the Buckeyes, who learned of the death of defensive lineman Kosta Karageorge one day after Barrett's season-ending injury

Ohio State honored Karageorge by wearing a decal with his jersey number, 53, on the back of its helmets. Defensive tackle Michael Bennett changed his jersey number from 63 to 53.

There was a pregame moment of silence to honor Karageorge, who was found dead of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound.

"A lot of things happened this past week and there's a family grieving that was a part of our family," Meyer said. "We'll never forget our teammate."

They still managed to beat a team that had won seven straight, had rushed for an average of 435.8 vards in its previous five games in the Hoosier State and was a fourpoint favorite coming into Saturday.

But against a determined quarterback and the motivated Buckeyes, Wisconsin never had a chance

Ohio State scored on five of its first six possessions against the nation's No. 4 scoring defense. The Buckeyes outgained the Badgers 558-258.

"I've got to take a long, hard look at the tape on both sides of the football," Badgers coach Gary Andersen said. "We did not execute in key moments. I need to do a better iob of coaching them.

The Buckeyes made it look easy Just six plays into the game, Jones hooked up with Smith on a pretty 39-yard

floater for a 7-0 lead. Elliott then found a hole in the middle and sprinted 81 yards



Ohio State quarterback Cardale Jones throws during the first half of the Big Ten Conference championship Saturday against Wisconsin in Indianapolis.

After Wisconsin finally held the Buckeyes to a field goal, Jones hooked up again with Smith on a 44-yard TD pass to make it 24-0 with 11:09 left in the second quarter, and Ohio State capped the half with Elliott's 14yard TD run and Joey Bosa's 4-yard fumble return for a score to make it 38-0.

Not much changed in the second half.

Baylor makes its case

By Stephen Hawkins The Associated Press

WACO, Texas - Baylor coach Art Briles accepted another Big 12 championship trophy and stated his case that the fifth-ranked Bears should be considered the league's "One True Champion."

After Baylor grabbed a share of its second conference title in a row with a 38-27 victory over No. 9 Kansas State on Saturday night, Briles acknowledged having a somewhat brisk conversation with Big 12 Commissioner Bob Bowlsby on the podium in the middle of the field during the trophy presentation.

Despite the much-repeated "One True Champion" slogan for the only power-five conference with a round-robin schedule and no championship game, Bowlsby has publicly said that Baylor and TCU (both 11-1, 8-1 Big 12) would be presented as co-champions to the playoff selection committee even though the Bears beat the Horned Frogs 61-58 on Oct. 11.

"Don't say one thing and do another, that's my whole deal," Briles said. "If they had said from the get-go, co-champs and head-to-head don't matter. I'm OK with it. ... I'm not obligated to him. I'm obligated to Baylor University and this football team.

While Baylor and TCU tied for the top spot in the conference, the Horned Frogs have been ranked higher in all six weekly playoff rankings — all after the Bears' home win over TCU. The Frogs were third, three spots ahead of Baylor, heading into the selection



Big 12 Commissioner Bob Bowlsby, right, presents Baylor head coach Art Briles with the conference trophy after the Bears defeated Kansas State 38-27 on Saturday in Waco, Texas.

committee's final meeting.

'There's so much of this season to be proud of regardless of what happens," Baylor quarterback Bryce Petty said, adding with a smile that he was intrigued by what will happen.

TCU has won seven in a row since its loss at Baylor. The Frogs, who heat Kansas State (9-3 7-2) by 21 points last month, earned their share of their first Big 12 title with a 55-3 win over Iowa State on Saturday.

Petty completed 34 of 40 passes for 412 yards with a touchdown and an interception in his final home game, a week after getting knocked out of the Bears' last game with a concussion.

Not medically cleared to play until Friday, Petty showed no ill effects of the concussion. The senior put his head down for a 1vard TD run only 1:35 in, capping an opening 81-yard drive that put Baylor ahead to stay.

"There's one true champion

and it's the Baylor Bears," Briles screamed to the celebratory

crowd after the victory.

For the fourth year in a row since the Big 12 went to 10 teams. the title wasn't decided until finishing the regular season on the first weekend in December when other leagues play title games.

And for the second year in a row, the Bears won at home in a finale. this time in their new campus stadium on the banks of the Brazos River after beating Texas 30-7.

Antwan Goodley had nine catches for 116 yards as Baylor won its 16th consecutive home game, matching Alabama for the longest current streak. The Bears are 6-0 in their new stadium

Jake Waters was 22-for-27 for 300 yards and two touchdowns for Kansas State, which was trying for its second Big 12 title in three years. Tyler Lockett, already the Wildcats career leader for receptions and vards, had 14 catches for 158 yards with an 8vard TD that was the 27th of his career - breaking a tie with his father, Kevin, for the most in school history.

No. 4 TCU clinches share of Big 12 title

By RALPH D. RUSSO The Associated Press

FORT WORTH, Texas - TCU coach Gary Patterson fired a football into the stands at Amon G. Carter Stadium, toward the Horned Frogs fans waving Big 12 championship towels and chant-ing, "Gary! Gary!"

The players sported their Big 12 champion baseball caps and conference commissioner Bob

Bowlsby gave the Frogs a trophy. "TCU is the Big 12 co-champion," Patterson, soaked from a Ga-torade bath, yelled to the crowd.

Trevone Boykin passed for a career-high 460 yards and caught a touchdown pass as No. 4 TCU earned a share of the conference title and kept its playoff bid alive with a 55-3 victory against lowly

The Horned Frogs (11-1, 8-1 Big 12) came into championship weekend ranked third in the College Football Playoff selection com-mittee's rankings, TCU was the only playoff contender not playing a ranked team this weekend.

Iowa State on Saturday.

There wasn't much the Frogs could do help themselves against the Cyclones (2-10, 0-9), but they avoided the type of clunker that could have caused the committee to downgrade them.

Aaron Green scored two touch downs for TCU, which is in just its third season in the Big 12 after conference hopping for nearly two decades

Derrick Kindred returned an interception 44 yards for a score in the third quarter to put the Frogs up 34-3.

Iowa State finished winless in the Big 12 for the first time since 2008, and the first time under sixth-year coach Paul Rhoads.

For TCU the question was not if the team would win, but by how much? The Horned Frogs were 34-point favorites against the worst team in the Big 12. The Cyclones have been crushed by injuries and no team in the league has allowed more yards per play.

"We knew we had to make a statement," Patterson said. Despite losing 61-58 at Baylor in

October, the Horned Frogs will be able to put conference champion on their résumé, even though the Bears beat Kansas State, Patterson's alma mater, 38-27 in Waco.

"I feel like we did everything we needed to do on our end to be one of those top four teams, Boykin said.

The Big 12 won't designate a champion through a tiebreaker. Instead, the conference will let the committee sort it out.

The Frogs and Bears played 10 common opponents. The biggest difference is Baylor played at Buffalo, a mediocre Mid-American Conference team, and TCU played Minnesota, a good Big Ten team.

Boykin's first career touch down reception got TCU off to a good start. The junior threw a backward pass to David Porter, who threw back to Boykin, behind a wall of blockers. The quarterback, who had 26 catches last season playing receiver, went untouched 55 yards.

Then a penalty here, a negative red-zone play there and a couple of turnovers kept TCU from pulling away in the first half. It was 17-3 at the break.

"We were pesky for 30 minutes and pleased with the effort and the response of our guys through that first 30 minutes," Rhoads

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

No. 1 Alabama routs Missouri for SEC title

By Paul Newberry The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Blake Sims went out for one more snap, then trotted off the field to a standing ovation from the Alabama fans

When he got to the sideline, there was a long embrace with offensive coordinator Lane Kiffin.

The wait was sure worth it. Sims, the fifth-year senior who finally got a chance to start this season, threw a pair of touchdown passes in an MVP performance that carried top-ranked Alabama to a spot in college football's inaugural playoff. The Crimson Tide routed No. 14 Missouri 42-13 to win its 24th Southeastern Conference championship on Saturday.

"You love to see a guy who's gone through what he's gone through, who's worked so hard and always persevered, then have success," Alabama coach Nick Saban said. "It's a credit to his character and work ethic." In a sense, it's like Sims is try-

ing to make up for lost time, running Kiffin's fast-paced offense to perfection.

They turned out to be the per-

fect match, Sims' versatility allowing the Tide to speed things up.

up.
"I've never seen a guy work so hard," Saban said.

This has also been a season of redemption for Kiffin, the guy who rubbed so many people the wrong way during stimts as a head coach. His record never matched his bravado, but Saban picked him to run the Alabama offense.

Some scoffed at the choice.

As usual, Saban had the last laugh.

Wearing a white windbreaker, a play card in hand, Kiffin made the calls that helped Alabama pile up a commanding 504-313



IN BAZEMORE/AP

Alabama offensive lineman Alphonse Taylor celebrates after defeating Missouri on Saturday to capture the Southeastern Conference championship in Atlanta. Alabama won 42-13.

edge in total yards.

Sims was brilliant, completing 23 of 27 for 262 yards as Alabama pulled away with a 21-point fourth quarter. T.J. Yeldon and Derrick Henry each had a couple of touchdown runs. Amari Cooper did nothing to hurt his Heisman chances, setting an SEC championship record with 12 receptions.

Missouri made it a one-score game in the third quarter, closing to 21-13, but there was no stopping Alabama (12-1) from locking up its spot in college football's inaugural playoff, most likely with a semifinal game at the Sugar Bowl on New Year's Day. And if the committee was impressed by second-ranked Oregon's 51-13 rout of Arizona in the Pac-12 title game Friday night, they got another equally dominating performance from the team on top of the latest rankings.

For Saban and the Tide, this

e was especially sweet.

A year ago, Alabama was poised to make a run at its third straight national title when Auburn won the Iron Bowl on the final play — a 109-yard return of a missed field goal.

Alabama was ranked No. 1 by the playoff committee after winning the brutal SEC West. By knocking off the East champion, the Tide made it three SEC titles in Saban's dominating eight years as coach, a run that increasingly looks like the second coming of Bear Bryant in a much more competitive era.

If Saban can win two more games, it would be his fourth national title in Tuscaloosa — just one away from Bryant's five AP

At the start, Alabama tried to run Missouri (10-3) right out of the building. Kiffin called a bunch of short

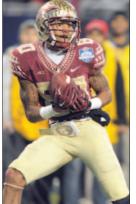
Kiffin called a bunch of short passes and runs to deal with Missouri's fearsome pass rush, which led the SEC in sacks. The Tide went 68 yards in 10 plays —never even going to third down

— to seize a 7-0 lead less than 4 minutes into the game.

Plucky Missouri, which reached the title game for the second year in a row despite ugly losses to Indiana and Georgia, managed to stay in this one much of the way thanks to Maty Mauk's deep passing. He completed throws of 63, 47, 32 and 26 yards, one of them on a Johnny Manziel-like scramble in which he threw back across his body running to his left. He finished 16-for-34 for 272 yards.

But that wasn't nearly enough against the Crimson Tide juggernaut.

"Once we got the game pretty close," Missouri receiver Jimmie Hunt said, "they did what they needed to do to finish it."



MIKE McCARN/AP

Florida State wide receiver Rashad Greene catches a pass before running in for a touchdown against Georgia Tech in Charlotte, N.C. on Saturday.

No. 2 FSU holds off Georgia Tech

By Steve Reed The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Coach Paul Johnson felt his Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets needed to play a flawless game to beat defending national champion Florida State.

The Yellow Jackets came fairly close.

Georgia Tech, the nation's third-leading rushing team, stuck to its bread and butter and finished with 331 yards on the ground and got three touchdowns from Synjyn Days. But it wasn't enough for the upset.

Florida State made its case to play for a second straight national title, finishing the season unbeaten as Jameis Winston threw for 309 yards and three touchdowns, and the second-ranked Seminoles held offNo. 12 Georgia Tech 37-35 Saturday night to win their third consecutive ACC championship.

"Florida State is a very talented team and it was the kind of game where you couldn't make a mistake," Johnson said.

The Yellow Jackets didn't force any turnovers and allowed Florida State to score on seven straight possessions after forcing a three-and-out to open the game.

"We came into the game confident, and definitely after that first drive when we forced a punt we felt like, 'OK, we can es-



Currey Burrow

Florida State head coach Jimbo Fisher kisses the Atlantic Coast Conference championship trophy after defeating Georgia Tech 37-35 on Saturday.

tablish something here," said Georgia Tech cornerback D.J. White. "But games can take a life of their own sometimes."

In Florida State coach Jimbo Fisher's mind, there is no doubt that Florida State belongs in the College Football Playoff.

"There ain't no decision to be made — the decision just got made," Fisher said during a postgame celebration while Seminoles fans roared in approval.

Rashad Greene had seven catches for 123 yards and two scores and freshman Dalvin Cook had 220 yards from scrimmage and a touchdown in his first college start to help extend the Seminoles' winning streak to 29 games.

Nick O'Leary added three catches for 97 yards and a touchdown.

"Last year's team was dominating, this year's team is more amazing," Fisher said. "It is really is. ... They compete together. They have had some struggles together and I think that's what makes them so tight."

Days ran for 67 yards, Justin Thomas ran for 104 yards and threw for a score for Georgia Tech (10-3, 6-3, No. 11 CFP), which rushed for 331 yards.

Winston, who threw four interceptions in a win over Florida last Saturday, was near perfect against the Yellow Jackets.

He completed 21 of 30 passes, didn't turn the ball over and seemed in total command throughout most of the game. Florida State scored on its final seven possessions before

running out the clock to end the game.
"Sometimes you just have to calm down
and get back in rhythm and get the ball to
the guy like Dalvin Cook and let him do his
thing," Winston said.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Big Ten champion Buckeyes leap Frogs

Ohio State passes TCU to join Alabama, Oregon, Florida State in first playoff

RALPH D. Russo
The Associated Press

GRAPEVINE, Texas — Alabama, Oregon, Florida State and Ohio State have been selected to play in the first College Football Playoff.

Alabama is the top seed and will play No. 4 Ohio State in one semi-final at the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans. Oregon is the second seed and will play third-seeded Florida State in the other semilinal at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California. Both games will be played New Year's Day.

The winners will advance to the national championship game to be played Jan. 12 at the home of the Dallas Cowboys in Arlington,

A 12-member selection committee set the field, revealing its selections Sunday morning. Later in the day, it was expected to complete its full top 25 and make the matchups for the other four New Year's bowls that are part of the playoff rotation.

Committee chairman Jeff Long said the top three were clear and the final spot came down to a debate between the Buckeyes and Big 12 co-champs Baylor and TCU.

Among those three, Long said: "It was decisive for Ohio State."

The College Football Playoff is replacing the Bowl Championship Series this season. The BCS matched the top two teams in the country in a national championship game.



ARRON CUMMINGS/AP

Ohio State comerback Doran Grant holds a rose in his teeth after the Buckeyes 59-0 victory over Wisconsin in the Big Ten championship game on Saturday in Indianapolis. Ohio State won 59-0. Instead of playing in the Rose Bowl, the Buckeyes will head to the Sugar Bowl to take on Alabama.

The playoff contenders did not make it easy on the committee by all winning on Saturday.

The committee has been ranking the top 25 weekly since late October's rankings and last week had Alabama and Oregon at the top, followed by TCU and Florida

State.

The committee ranks teams differently than traditional college football polls, such as the AP Top 25. Instead of collecting a ballot from each member and tallying votes, the committee ranks small groups by a series of

votes. And Long, the athletic director at Arkansas, has said that each week the panel starts with a blank slate.

The great debate for weeks was whether TCU or Baylor would make it into the final four. The Bears beat their Big 12 rivals

61-58 in Waco back in October, but from the start the committee ranked TCU ahead of the Bears, who lost at West Virginia by 14 and played a particularly weak nonconference schedule.

For weeks, Long said that the difference between the Beas and Horned Frogs was not close enough for it to come down to the head-to-head result. But when the season concluded the teams had played 10 common opponents. The Big 12 further muddled the issue by not designating a champion by a tiberbeaker. The Bears and Frogs both got a trophy and are called co-champions.

Ohio State has come from the farthest during the season, over-coming an early loss to Virginia Tech to make a strong run. The Buckeyes final statement was a doozy: 59-0 against Wisconsin in the Big Ten championship game Saturdav.

"We think they overcame that [loss to Virginia Tech] with nine wins against bowl-eligible teams," Long said.

Florida State's unbeaten record hasn't gotten the respect the Seminoles believe it deserves from the committee. The defending national champions are the only undefeated team in FBS. But numerous close calls and comebacks have led the committee to drop the Seminoles in the rankings.

Ultimately, though, the Seminoles will get to defend their championship in the first playoff.

Boise State earns spot in New Year's Day bowl

By Jason Chatraw The Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho — Boise State didn't need to be perfect to best FresnoState in the Mountain West championship game Saturday night. The 22nd-ranked Broncos just needed senior quarterback Grant Hedrick and a handful of big defensive plays.

Hedrick ran for two touchdowns and accounted for more than 75 percent of the team's offense in leading Boise State to a 28-14 win.

The Broncos (11-2), who claimed a share of the conference title in 2012, won their first outright league championship since joining the Mountain West four years ago. Boise State, which needde perfect seasons in the past to gain access to a BCS bowl, preserved their chance to get the lone slot for a team outside the power five conferences in a major New Year's Day bowl game.

"The goal from when we set out this season was to be in this game, and when we got into this game, the goal was to win this game," said Boise State coach Bryan Harsin, who took over the program from Chris Petersen after last season. "To accomplish that goal is a credit to our approach to the game each and every week.

"It's been up and down but mostly up. I'm very excited about this opportunity that we had tonight and that we won it."

Hedrick was 9 of 16 passing for 155 yards, and had 81 yards rushing with the two scores to earn the game's offensive MVP honors.

"The last year has been crazy, but it just goes to show you the type of chemistry we have and the kind of team we have and what a brotherhood we are," Hedrick said. "It's been a crazy experience going through spring ball and then to be here and bringing home the first outright MWC trophy—it's huge and goes to show you what a great program we

Tanner Vallejo, who had 13 tackles and an interception return for a touchdown, won the defensive MVP award.

After winning the inaugural Mountain West championship game last year, the Bulldogs (6-7) lost to the Broncos for the second time this season.

Fresno State, led by quarter-

back Brian Burrell's 332 yards passing, outgained Boise State on offense, rolling up 402 yards to 303 for the Broncos.

"We came into the game, expecting to win. I think our guys competed like it," Fresno State coach Tim DeRuyter said. "We kept fighting, we kept believing, and kept trying to make plays to get back into the game.

"But give Boise State credit. They made some plays when they had to. And there's clearly a home-field advantage here. But Boise State earned it and they finished it off."

The Bulldogs limited Boise State star running back Jay Ajayi to 70 yards rushing and prevented him from breaking the school record for yards rushing in a season.

Ajayi also saw his school record-tying streak of consecutive 100-yard games snapped at seven.

Fresno State held Boise State to 83 yards of total offense in the second half. But it didn't matter as the Broncos relied on their opportunistic defense to secure the victory.

"Any time a team plays well on



KYLE GREEN, THE IDAHO STATESMAN/AP

Boise State linebacker Ben Weaver pours Gatorade over the head of coach Bryan Harsin. Boise State defeated Fresno State 28-14 in the Mountain West Championship game.

defense, you have a pretty good football team," Harsin said. "We needed our defense to be the most relentless unit on a field tonight. We had an interception by a linebacker returned for a touchdown and a defensive lineman who I didn't know could catch until tonight. ... Our defensive unit just had a fantastic night."

SPORTS



Golden boys

Green scores career-high 31 as Warriors win franchise-record 12th straight | Page 28





No. 1 Alabama vs. No. 4 OSU No. 2 Oregon vs. No. 3 FSU

Let the games begin

Stage is set for College Football Playoff | Page 31



